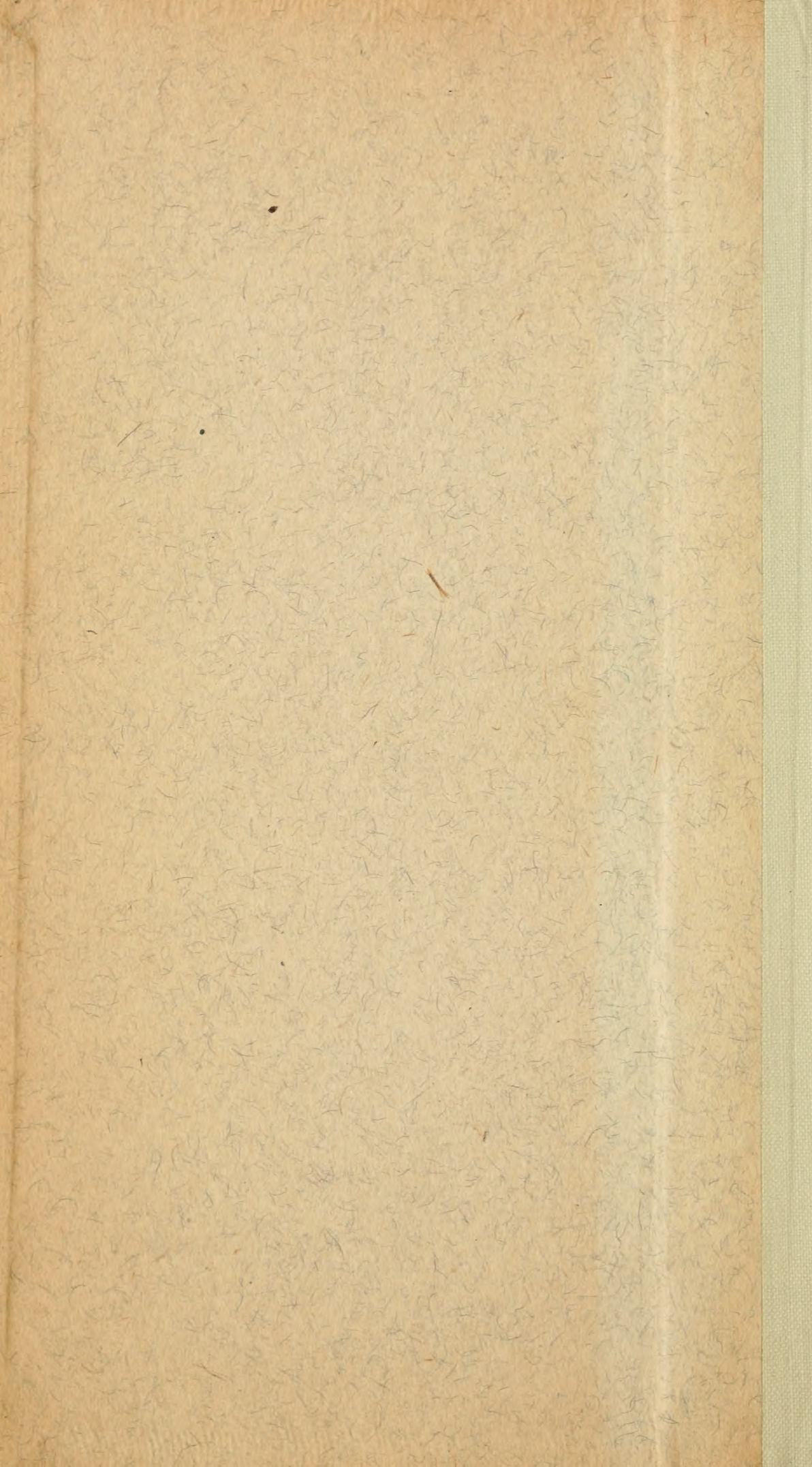


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Sam. Swift

HISTORY
OF THE
TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY,
IN THE
COUNTY OF ADDISON, VERMONT:

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED

A STATISTICAL AND HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE COUNTY,

WRITTEN AT THE REQUEST OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MIDDLEBURY,

BY SAMUEL SWIFT.

MIDDLEBURY:
A. H. COPELAND.
1859.

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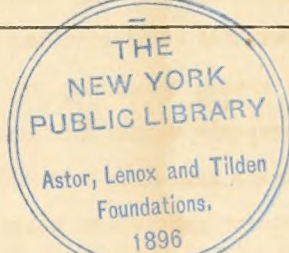
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Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1859, by

A. H. COPELAND,

In the Clerk's office of the District Court of the United States for the District of
Vermont.



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Printed by Mead & Fuller,
Middlebury.

NOTICE.

In writing the "Statistical and Historical account of the County of Addison," it has not been my intention to interfere with the histories of the several towns, which may be published ; nor state any facts or Statistics, except such as have some reference to the County generally. I should have been gratified to notice some of the distinguished citizens in the several towns, especially such as have been in office in the county ; also the Academies and other High Schools, which have been established in several towns. But I was unwilling to take these out of the hands of the historians of the several towns, which they will be much better qualified to describe, and which are more properly within their province.

This work was written, when the materials were collected, in 1855. Since that some changes of a public character have taken place, and some information has been received, which I have inserted in the text or notes ; but most of the chapters remain as they were written,—no new materials have been collected.

S. SWIFT.

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COUNTY OF ADDISON.

CHAPTER I.

TERRITORY—FACE OF THE COUNTRY—SOIL—ORIGINAL FORESTS—
LIME—MARBLE—STREAMS.

Soon after the organization of the Historical Society of Middlebury, the importance of procuring, as early as possible, histories of the several towns in the County became a subject of consideration. Already nearly all the men who had shared in the occurrences and toils of the first settlement had passed away; and their immediate descendants, who are the next best witnesses, will soon follow them. It is known to all, who have any knowledge of the subject, that no histories are so interesting to residents, especially descendants of the early inhabitants, as the history of the perils and hardships of the first settlement in their respective towns. Yet this subject had been everywhere too much neglected, and was likely to be neglected, unless some exterior influence should be brought to bear upon it. The subject was, therefore, brought more distinctly before the Society, at their annual meeting on the 29th day of December, 1846. At this time a committee was appointed to consider the subject and make report at the next meeting. At a subsequent meeting, on the 23d of February, Professor STODDARD, one of the committee, made a report, which was accepted, and the plan recommended was adopted, and a committee appointed to carry it into effect. This committee appointed competent agents in the several towns, and sent to them circulars, embracing the plan recommended

by the society. But the committee have found it a more difficult task than they had anticipated to accomplish so desirable an object. Some of the agents declined the undertaking, and others, who had given encouragement, neglected the task so long that all hope from them was given up. In many of the towns new agents were appointed, and requested to perform the service. In two of the most important towns, gentlemen, fully competent to the undertaking, had collected materials, and made progress in the work; but in the midst of their labors, one of them was arrested by death and the other removed from the State. Notwithstanding the faithful exertions of PHILIP BATTELL, Esq., Secretary of the society and one of the committee, a few only of the histories have been completed. But it was thought best to delay the publication no longer. On examination and inquiry, however, no person could be found willing to undertake the publication of the whole together, as was proposed, or separately, on account of the limited sale which must attend the work. Since the passage of the act of the Legislature at their session in 1858, it is proposed to commence the publication of the history of each town separately, as fast as they are written, and the towns shall furnish the requisite encouragement. The histories are obtained through the agency and published under the direction of the society. But it is to be understood that the society take to themselves none of the credit or responsibility of the composition. These belong exclusively to the several authors.

As the plan is designed to embrace the histories of all the towns in the County of Addison, it is thought proper to introduce them with some general account of that territory as a whole. The County properly has no history. It has its geography and its geology; but it has no active independent existence; no acts or laws of its own to be recorded. It is a field rather, in which the State operates by its acts and laws. It has its courts, but they are established by the State; and it has its officers, but they are appointed or commissioned by the State. Its history is only the history of a part of the State, and the history of the State is its history. This fact may justify the record we make of incidents, which properly belong to the history of the State. In doing so we have relied on original docu-

ments, and do not design to give any general history, but to confine ourselves chiefly to such incidents as are not contained in our present State histories, and thus perhaps correct some views and facts stated by them.

The County of Addison is situated on the west line of the State and nearly in the centre north and south; between $43^{\circ} 50'$ and $44^{\circ} 10'$ north latitude. It is bounded on the west by Lake Champlain, the western boundary of the State; on the north by the towns of Charlotte, Hinesburgh and a part of Huntington, in the County of Chittenden; on the north-east by a part of Huntington, and by Fayston, Warren and Roxbury, in the County of Washington; on the south-east by Braintree, in the County of Orange, and Rochester, in the County of Windsor; and on the south by Benson, Sudbury, Brandon and Chittenden, in the County of Rutland. It embraces at the present time the following towns:

ADDISON,	GRANVILLE,	NEW HAVEN,	STARKSBOROUGH,
BRIDPORT,	HANCOCK,	ORWELL,	VERGENNES,
BRISTOL,	LEICESTER,	PANTON,	WALTHAM,
CORNWALL,	LINCOLN,	RIPTON,	WEYBRIDGE,
FERRISBURGH,	MIDDLEBURY,	SALISBURY,	WHITING.
GOSHEN,	MONKTON,	SHOREHAM,	

The County formerly embraced an unincorporated tract of land known by the name of Avery's Gore; the east part of which, by act of the Legislature passed November 6, 1833, was added to the town of Kingston, now Granville, and the north part was added to Lincoln, by act of November 12, 1849.

This County was established by act of the Legislature October 18, 1785, and the territory which it contained is described in the act as follows: "Beginning at the northwest corner of Orwell, then running eastwardly on the north line of Orwell, Sudbury, Brandon and Philadelphia, and then so far east as to intersect the west line of the first town, that is bounded in its charter, or some town or towns, which are dependent for their original bounds on Connecticut River as aforesaid, to the south line of the Province of Quebec, which is the north line of this State; then westwardly in said line through Missisque Bay, &c., to the centre of the deepest

channel of Lake Champlain; then southwardly in the deepest channel of said lake till it intersects the west line from the northwest corner of said Orwell; then east to the bounds begun at; which territory of land shall be known by the name of the County of Addison; and the east line of said County of Addison shall be the west line of the counties of Windsor and Orange, so far as they join."

The County by this act embraced the territory to the north line of the State, so far east as to include a large part of the Counties of Washington and Orleans. The town of Kingston, now Granville, not included in the original boundaries, was set off from Orange County to this, by act of the 19th of October, 1787. The act establishing the County of Chittenden was passed on the 22d of October, 1787, making the north line of this County the same as at present, except that it embraced the town of Starksboro, which afterwards by the act of 1797 was included in this County. The town of Warren, which was included in this County, by act of the Legislature in 1829, was annexed to the County of Washington; and the town of Orwell, then in the County of Rutland, was, on the 13th November, 1847, annexed to this County. These constitute all the changes made in the territory of the County since its first establishment, leaving in it the towns above enumerated.

The eastern part of the County extends over the first range of the Green Mountains; and five of the towns are situated on, or among the mountains, and others extend their eastern borders up the western slope. About a quarter of the county is mountainous, or has a soil of similar characteristics. The soil of this tract is generally loam of variable compactness, and some is gravelly or sandy. Some of the hills are so stony or steep as to be better suited for pasture than for tilling. But large portions are not too stony or steep to be excellent tilling lands, and are quite productive of many valuable crops. When opened for a season to the influence of the sun, they produce good crops of corn, spring wheat and other grains, and they are especially valuable for grazing. The alluvial lands on the branches of White River in the eastern towns, and on other streams, are especially valuable for these purposes. The towns west of the mountains are in part very level, and in part, what may be called

rolling, with a few hills too prominent to bear that designation. Among which is Snake Mountain, a long ridge of moderately elevated land, lying on the borders of each of the towns of Addison, Weybridge and Bridport. In these towns, the prevailing soil is clay, of different degrees of stiffness, with some loam, gravelly and sandy land, on the more elevated portions, which rise above what is said by geologists, to have been once covered with water.

On the borders of Lake Champlain, especially in the towns of Addison, Panton and Ferrisburgh, are very extensive flat lands, composed of clay, with a mixture of vegetable substances, which were obviously once the bottom of the lake. These lands, when cleared are remarkably productive of grass; but for other crops are too stiff for easy cultivation, and are liable to suffer when the season is too wet or too dry. In this tract are several sluggish streams. One of which especially, being of greater extent than the others, bears the name of Dead Creek. It rises in Bridport, and runs northerly, through Addison and Panton and empties into Otter Creek in Ferrisburgh. This, as well as the others, is supplied to a moderate extent, from small springs at the bottom of the channel, but principally by rain water and melted snow, collected from an extensive surface in small ravines. The stream being nearly on a level with Otter Creek, the water is increased or diminished by the rise or fall of the latter stream, whose waters set up into it. Another called Ward's Creek, also rises in Bridport, and runs through a corner of Addison and empties into the lake about a mile south of Crown Point, and another called Hospital Creek empties into the lake a short distance north of Chimney Point. The quantity of water in these depends on the height of the water in the lake. These sluggish streams afford water for cattle in their neighborhood, through the summer, except in the driest seasons.

Lemon Fair rises in Orwell and runs through the eastern part of Shoreham, southeast part of Bridport, and northwest part of Cornwall, and empties into Otter Creek in Weybridge. In Shoreham there is a considerable water power on this stream, but below that it is very sluggish, and its quantity of water depends much on the height of the water in Otter Creek, in the spring and other freshets.

On the borders of this creek are also extensive flat lands, which have no superior for the production of grass.

On the borders of Otter Creek are also extensive flats, which in the spring and other high freshets are overflowed by the waters of the creek. A part of the tract, especially in Cornwall and Whiting on the west side, and Middlebury and Salisbury on the east side, is so low as to be called a swamp, and, except small patches called islands, consists of vegetable substances to the depth, in some places, of ten feet. These lands when cleared and thoroughly drained become very productive.

The natural growth timber on the flat lands last mentioned, was pine, cedar, tamarack, soft maple, black ash and elm, with an occasional mixture of other trees. And similar timber was the growth of a similar swamp in New Haven, and another in Shoreham. On the flat lands on the border of the lake, the original timber was pine, oak, soft maple, black ash, and some other trees in smaller numbers. On the western slope of the mountain were a few patches of pine, and in other parts of the mountainous region were fine groves of maple, beach, birch, black cherry and hemlock, and a very handsome growth of spruce, which has become an important article for building and for exportation. In other parts west of the mountains were considerable tracts of pine and oak. Besides these the principal trees were maple, beach, ash, basswood, butternut, walnut and hemlock. The large quantities of pine and oak have been so freely used for building and for exportation, that they have already become scarce and high in price.

In the western part of the County, the lands on the borders of the lake, especially in the towns of Bridport, Addison and Panton, are greatly deficient in water. There are no considerable running streams, except the dead streams we have mentioned. The living water from springs is very limited; and some of these are so strongly impregnated with Epsom Salts, that the inhabitants have evaporated the water to procure the salts for medicine. It is said that cattle are fond of the water, and that the springs were much visited by the deer before the settlement of the country. In some parts the inhabitants are obliged to resort, to a great extent, to rain water for

family use; and farmers, who live at a distance from the lake and creeks, are much troubled in dry seasons to obtain water for their cattle. Except the limited water power on Lemon Fair in Shoreham, there is none in that town or either of the towns above mentioned of much value. And yet these towns are among the most wealthy agricultural towns in the County.

The range of granular lime stone, which enters this State from Berkshire County, Mass., at Pownal, and passes through the Counties of Bennington and Rutland, passes also through this County. The lime produced from it is of a very superior quality, and is thought, by those acquainted with it, to be much superior to the lime from Maine, which is common in the Boston market. Considerable establishments,—one especially, near the Whiting Railroad Station, built by L. P. White, Esq.—have been formed for manufacturing it; and large quantities are already exported by the railroad to the eastern towns; and the demand is such as to authorize an extensive enlargement of the business, where the requisite fuel is not too expensive.

From this range large quantities of marble are taken out and manufactured in Bennington and Rutland Counties, and exported to every part of the United States. The marble improves, in its fineness and compactness, as it advances north, and it is believed that the best in the whole range is to be found in Addison County. It is of a finer quality than any which has been discovered, unless it be the quarry in Sudbury near the south line of this County. It is pronounced by competent judges to be superior to the Italian marble for statuary, and the only doubt is, whether large blocks can be obtained sufficiently sound. No sufficient exploration has been made to settle that question. No persons have been able and willing to invest a sufficient capital for that purpose. Some injudicious expenditure was made on a quarry about a mile east of the village of Middlebury. But it has been in hands not yet able to make a thorough exploration. Another quarry, on which there has been some expenditure, is at Belden's Falls, two miles north of the village of Middlebury. It was purchased, together with the water power, by the late Col. PERKINS, of Boston, and PERKINS NICHOLS, of New

York, both too far advanced in life to engage personally in the business. Under a contract made with them, a company of men undertook to make an examination of the quarry, under the superintendence of a scientific gentleman, Professor FOSTER. The examination was continued for several weeks, and a considerable number of blocks were taken out, and the Professor, to the very last, expressed entire confidence that the marble was sound, and that a large establishment would soon be made for the purpose of working it. But the work was suddenly stopped without any reason known to us.

Doct. EBEN W. JUDD, of Middlebury, was the first person who wrought marble by water power in this State. He and his son-in-law, LEBBEUS HARRIS, carried on the business extensively for several years; but both dying, the business was closed. They wrought principally the blue and clouded marble in their neighborhood, as more easily obtained. They in the meantime purchased the quarry of beautiful black marble on the lake shore in Shoreham, large quantities of which they wrought at their works in Middlebury. It was used principally for chimney pieces; for which purpose we think there is none superior. Doct. N. HARRIS, who afterwards owned the quarry, in company with one or two associates, got out considerable quantities of the marble, and, in unwrought blocks, put it on board boats and sent it to New York, where it is understood there was a large demand for it. We believe the quarries in Addison County will yet be a source of wealth, as well from the lime as the marble to be obtained from them.

There are also, in several places, valuable quarries of limestone suitable for building purposes. The most important are in Panton and neighborhood, from which are taken the beautiful building stone much used in Vergennes; and a quarry of excellent dark blue stone in the south part of Cornwall, in convenient layers for building, with a handsome natural face, which was used for the front of the College Chapel, and for underpinning of many other buildings in Middlebury. In Weybridge and some other towns is found valuable building stone.

The County does not abound in metallic ores. "Iron ore is found

in the south part of Monkton in large quantities. This ore makes excellent iron," and has been extensively manufactured at Vergennes, Bristol and other places. But it is said, that it is not *rich*, and is therefore usually mixed with ore from Crown Point, and other places west of the lake, in order to manufacture it economically.

About a mile north of the ore bed, on the east side of a ridge running north and south, is an extensive bed of kaolin. It is white, sometimes grayish white, dry to the touch and absorbs water with rapidity. It is said, "It might be manufactured into the best China ware." Under this conviction a factory for the manufacture of porcelain ware, from this material, was many years ago established at Middlebury, on the bank of the creek about a mile south of the village. But it did not succeed, either through a defect in the material, or the inexperience of the manufacturer. But it has been extensively used for the manufacture of stone ware, and fire brick.

Notwithstanding the deficiency of water in some of the western towns, we are not acquainted with any equal extent of country, which furnishes a more abundant supply of water power than the eastern and northern parts of the County. Otter Creek is one of the largest rivers in the State. It enters the County from the south in Leicester, through a part of which it passes, and is in part the boundary between that town and Whiting; runs between the towns of Salisbury and Cornwall; through the west part of Middlebury, between the towns of New Haven and Weybridge, and the towns of Waltham and Panton, and through Vergennes into Ferrisburgh, where it empties into Lake Champlain. There are few rivers, of no larger size, which afford, in the same distance, so much safe water power. From the head of the falls in Middlebury, to the foot of the falls in Vergennes, there is a descent of about three hundred feet, in a distance of about thirteen miles, divided into six or seven falls convenient for mills. In some of these, the water has a perpendicular descent, in others it falls over precipitous rocks, and in some the fall is sufficient to allow the use of the water several times. Mills on none of them are endangered by sudden and violent freshets. For twenty-five miles above the falls of Middlebury, the banks are low, and very extensive level flats adjoin them through the whole

distance. In a violent rush of waters from the mountains, from melting snows or heavy rains, the water in the creek, instead of rushing in a swollen current down its channel, rises but little before it spreads over an immense extent of country, and is not wholly drawn off until the stream is reduced nearly to its common level. This of course is a protection to all the falls below. Similar flats above the falls at Vergennes, extending far up the Lemon Fair, furnish a similar security to that power. The waters on some of these falls are but partially used, and on several not at all.

At Middlebury, there is on the east side a cotton factory in full operation, and a large grist or flouring mill. On the west are a woollen factory, a grist mill, saw mill, pail factory, a planing machine and other machinery for working wood, besides another woollen factory not now in operation. At the Paper Mill falls, three quarters of a mile farther down there are on the west side, a paper mill, oil mill, saw mill, carding machine and trip hammer shop; and on the east side a furnace and machine shop. Belden's falls a mile and a half further north, is a very valuable water power, on which there are no works. A mile or two further, and four miles from Middlebury, is Painter's falls in a similar condition. One or two miles further down the stream is the Quaker Village falls, where are a grist mill, two saw mills and some other works, and on the rapids, just above, there was, if not now, a saw mill.

PHILIP C. TUCKER, Esq., at our request, has obligingly furnished us the following account of the falls at Vergennes and the works on it. "The falls of Great Otter Creek at Vergennes, are divided by two islands into three separate parts. The width of their head is about three hundred and ten feet. The height of the fall is thirty seven feet. The creek furnishes an ample supply of water through the year. On the westerly shore is an iron foundery, a forge with four fires, and saw mill owned by the Vergennes Iron Company, and carried on by WILLIAM H. WHITE, Esq., There is also a machine shop carried on by Mr. WILLIAM ROSS. On the west island, there is a large grist and flouring mill, with five runs of stones, and a plaster mill owned and carried on by Capt. CHARLES W. BRADBURY. On the east island there is one saw mill and a

manufactory of hames. The property on this island is owned by Gen. SAMUEL P. STRONG. The hame factory is carried on by WILLIAM R. BIXBY, Esq. On the easterly shore, is a large building erected in 1854 for manufacturing purposes, and a saw mill. The manufacturing building is one hundred and thirty-five feet long, thirty eight wide, and four and a half stories high on the water side, and three and a half stories on the land side. A portion of this building is now used for the manufacture of Sampson's patent scales, a new article lately patented. The saw mill is sixty-four feet long, thirty feet wide, and fitted for a gang of twenty-four saws. These buildings are the property of GREEN, ROBERTS and WILLARD, but the scale business is carried on by a stock company in connection with the patentee."

A large amount of power is also furnished by the tributaries of Otter Creek, which come down from the mountain on the east. The first in order from the south is Leicester River, which issues from Lake Dunmore, runs through Salisbury village, and five or six miles from the lake empties into the creek in Leicester. From the lake to the foot of the falls below the village, about a mile and a half, is a fall of 150 or 200 feet, available for mills, almost the whole distance. The stream, although not large, has some advantages peculiar to itself. The water, like that of the lake, from which it issues is very pure, and being furnished by springs under the lake or in its neighborhood, is so warm, that it does not freeze in winter, and obstruct the wheels by ice, as is common in other streams. Besides, when the water is raised by freshets from the mountain, it spreads over the whole surface of the lake, and does not rush in sudden and violent torrents into the stream; and it can be controlled by a dam and gate at the outlet, so as to let into it only what is needed, reserving the surplus for future necessity. There is now on the stream a saw mill near the outlet. About half a mile further down, on a fall of 15 or 20 feet, are a forge and shingle machine. Less than half a mile below this is a large woollen factory, with a fall of about 20 feet. At the first fall at the village of about 15 feet, is a large mill pond, on which are a saw mill, trip hammer shop and a woollen factory. Immediately below this,

with a fall of 25 or 30 feet is a grist mill, and immediately below the last mentioned, with a fall of 20 feet is a saw mill, and below this at the bottom of the descent, is a fall of seven or eight feet, on which a forge formerly stood, but is not now in operation.

Middlebury River rises in the mountain east of Middlebury, in two branches; the principal of which rises within the limits of Hancock. These unite in Ripton, and the stream descending the west slope of the mountain, empties into the creek near the south line of Middlebury. At the village of East Middlebury, at the foot of the mountain, is a series of falls, which furnish several valuable sites for mills. On these are now a forge, two saw mills, a grist mill, tannery, two shops with machinery for boring, sawing and turning timber for waggons, a machine for sawing shingles, a sash factory and a factory for sawing and fitting barrel staves for the Boston market. For two or three miles on each branch in Ripton, are convenient mill sites nearly the whole distance; and there are now, on the main branch four saw mills, two shingle machines and a grist mill; and on the north branch three saw mills.

New Haven River rises in the northeast part of Ripton, and runs northwesterly through Lincoln, Bristol and New Haven, and empties into Otter Creek at Brooksville, in the southeast corner of New Haven. In its course it receives several streams, on all of which are mills or forges; one in Lincoln, called Downing Brook, which rises in the northeast part of Starksborough, one in Bristol, called Baldwin Creek, and another in the south part of Bristol, called O'Brian Brook. On this stream and its tributaries, are now in Bristol, seven saw mills, two grist mills, one trip hammer, one sash and door factory, one chair factory, one carding and clothing factory and two forges. In Lincoln, there are six saw mills, one shingle and one clapboard machine, and two forges. At East Mills in New Haven, are a grist mill, saw mill and woollen factory. At the lower falls at Brooksville, is a very extensive axe factory, established and owned by BROOKS BROTHERS, which, from time to time, from small beginnings, has been greatly enlarged by its enterprising proprietors. On the same falls is a saw mill. Along the whole line of this river, is a large amount of water power yet unemployed.

To these streams may be added Little Otter Creek, which has considerable water power and a number of mills in Ferrisburgh; and Lewis Creek, which rises in Starksborough, and after running a considerable distance, through Hinesburgh and Charlotte in Chittenden County, returns into this County in Ferrisburgh. On this latter stream in Starksborough, are a saw mill, grist mill, carding machine, works for dressing cloth and a furnace, which is employed principally for casting plough shares. In Ferrisburgh also, there are several mills. Both these streams empty into Lake Champlain near each other in Ferrisburgh.

The Brook Trout is the most common and nearly the only fish found in the streams, which come down from the mountains and hills. In the early settlement they were found in great abundance, often weighing two or three pounds. But being a favorite fish for the table, great havoc has been made of them by the fishermen, and the number and size have greatly diminished. It is rare to take one weighing half a pound, and they are generally much smaller. In Lake Dunmore, the source of Leicester River, at an early day, were found large quantities of Lake Trout. The water being pure and clear, like that of Lake George, the fish were of the same quality and size. They were frequently caught weighing fifteen or twenty pounds, and it has been said sometimes twenty-five pounds. It has been said also, that formerly some trout were found in Otter Creek. But we are not aware that they have been found for many years past. The principal fish found, until lately, in this Creek or Lemon Fair, are bull-heads, suckers, rock-bass and eels. The following communication from our friend, Dr. RUSSELL, will give some idea of the fish, which now prevail in both these streams.

“HON SAMUEL SWIFT—*Sir*:—Agreeable to your request, I herewith communicate the facts, connected with the introduction of Pickerel into Otter Creek: In the spring of 1819, Hon. DANIEL CHIPMAN and others, induced the formation of committees in the towns of Middlebury, Salisbury, Leicester and Whiting, to visit Lake Champlain to procure fish for the purpose of putting them into Otter Creek. The arrangement was successfully carried out; and at that time large quantities of the different varieties of fish usually taken in Lake Champlain were placed in Otter Creek. From the diary of our deceased townsman, EBEN W. JUDD and others, I learn, that the committee for Middlebury, consisting of JAMES SATTERLY, HARVEY

WILLSON, DANIEL L. POTTER, GEORGE CHIPMAN and CHAUNCEY W. FULLER, on the 12th of May visited Lake Champlain, and fished with seines at Chimney Point. The party camped out the night of the 13th, and did not reach Middlebury, on their return, until the middle of the next night. The fish taken were transported in water, which was frequently changed on the passage. They were placed in Otter Creek above Middlebury Falls, the same night. Of the many varieties, brought from the lake, all have disappeared, except the Pickerel. They have greatly increased, both in size and quantity. Some weighing over twenty weight,—notwithstanding, the large quantity annually taken from the creek. They are found through the creek, the whole length, from Sutherland's Falls to the Vergennes Falls, and the whole length of Lemon Fair. They are as much improved in quality as in size. It is said that those taken above the Great Falls at Vergennes, are greatly superior in quality to those taken below, which come up from the lake.

Too much praise cannot be rendered those far seeing and disinterested men, who exerted themselves so successfully for our benefit, and placed within the reach of every resident of the valley of Otter Creek and Lemon Fair, a luxury not to be exceeded from any other water.

Respectfully your friend,

W. P. RUSSEL."

CHAPTER II.

COUNTY SEATS—COUNTY BUILDINGS—COURTS—CHANGES OF THE JUDICIARY.

The act incorporating the County in 1785, established the towns of "Addison and Colchester to be half shires," "for the time being," and directed "that the times and places for holding County Courts, or Courts of Common Pleas annually, be as follows, viz., at Addison aforesaid, the first Tuesday of March, and at Colchester the second Tuesday of November, and that the Supreme Court be held on the second Tuesday of August, alternately at Addison and Colchester." The Governor and Council were authorized "to appoint County Officers and commissionate them for the time being." The Judges of the County Court, appointed under this provision "for the time being," were JOHN STRONG of Addison, Chief Judge, and GAMALIEL PAINTER of Middlebury, and IRA ALLEN of Colchester, side or Assistant Judges, and NOAH CHITTENDEN Sheriff.

The first term of the Court was held at Addison, on the first Tuesday of March 1786. An act passed in February 1781, had provided that the freemen should elect four Assistant Judges of the County Court; and before the next term of the Court, the freemen of the County had elected WILLIAM BRUSH, HILAND HALL, SAMUEL LANE and ABEL THOMPSON, Assistant Judges, and the Court was held by them "at Captain THOMAS BUTTERFIELD'S in Colchester," on the second Tuesday of November 1786. The March term 1787 was held according to the act at Addison; and the County of Chittenden, which included Colchester, being established before November, that term was also held at Addison. The Judges chosen by the freemen in 1786, held the court in 1787; and since that time, only two Assistant Judges have been appointed. Until the alteration of the constitution, in 1850, these with other County Offi-

cers were appointed by the Legislature. The Court continued to be held at Addison until the September term 1792. At their October session in 1791, the Legislature passed an act removing the Court to Middlebury, but providing that it should not take effect until "April next," and of course the March term 1792 was held at Addison. Since that time the Courts have been uniformly held at Middlebury.

There were no County buildings in Addison, and the Court held its sessions at the houses of BENJAMIN PAINE at Chimney Point, of ZADOCK EVEREST, Esq., of JONAH CASE, and of his widow after his decease, all on the shore of Lake Champlain. The Courts were also held for some time at public houses in Middlebury; in the years 1792 and 1793 at the public house of JOHN DEMING, which stood on the ground now occupied by the Congregational Church, and afterwards until the Court House was completed, at the public house of SAMUEL MATTOCKS. The first Court House was commenced in Middlebury in 1796, but was not occupied by the Court until 1798. It was built by subscription of the citizens of Middlebury and vicinity. The jail had been previously built.

Hon. GAMALIEL PAINTER, who owned a large tract of land on the east side of Middlebury Falls, on the second day of May 1791, and previous to the removal of the Courts to that place executed to "JOHN WILLARD, BENJAMIN GORTON and JABEZ ROGERS, together with all the rest of the inhabitants of the County of Addison, and to their successors forever," a quit claim deed of the following tract of land in Middlebury, "viz., beginning at the southeast corner of a half acre lot of land, that he the said GAMALIEL sold to SAMUEL MILLER, Esq., and is the same lot where the said MILLER now liveth; thence south 30 minutes east, eight chains and ten links to a stake standing on the east side of a road; thence east one chain and six links to a stake; thence north 30 minutes west eight chains and ten links to the south line of MILLER's lot; thence west one chain and six links to the bounds begun at," "for the only expressed purpose and use of a Common never to be divided, or put to any other use." This tract is in the form of a parallelogram, about four and a quarter rods wide, extending from the house lot owned

by the late EDWARD D. BARBER, Esq., in front of Mr. WARNER's lot and the Addison House, to the house lot owned by the late RUFUS WAINWRIGHT, and now occupied by his widow.

On the 22d of May 1794, Judge PAINTER executed another deed to "JABEZ ROGERS, JOSEPH COOK and ELEAZER CLAGHORN, together with all other inhabitants of the County of Addison," of a tract of land in Middlebury, "bounded as follows, beginning at a heap of stones at the southwest corner of an acre lot of land, which said PAINTER formerly sold to SIMEON DUDLEY: thence running south, 30 minutes east, on the east line of a certain piece of land said PAINTER formerly gave to the people of said County, three chains and seventy-eight links to a stake; thence east 30 minutes north three chains and seventy-three links to a stake; thence north 30 minutes west three chains and seventy-eight links to a stake, standing in the south line of said DUDLEY's lot; thence a straight line to the bounds begun at, containing one acre and sixty-five rods," "for the express use and purpose of erecting a court house and jail thereon, and as a common, never to be divided or put to any other use." This lot lies east of, and adjoining, the lot first mentioned; and on this lot the court house and jail were erected. The DUDLEY lot, which forms the northern boundary, is that on which SAMUEL MATROCKS built his public house, and on which the Addison House now stands; and it is understood that in erecting the present house, it was extended south several feet beyond the limits of the lot, on the land of the County.

The court house was built on the brow of the hill five or six rods north of, and nearly in a line with, the house occupied by Mrs. WAINWRIGHT. The jail house had been previously built of wood on the same line, and within a rod or two of the south line of the DUDLEY lot. It contained a tenement for the family of the jailor, as well as a dungeon and other rooms for prisoners. This jail was built by a "tax of two pence on the pound" on the list of the County for the year 1793, granted by the Legislature in November 1792, and payable into the County Treasury by the first day of December 1794." "ELEAZER CLAGHORN, GAMALIEL PAINTER, SAMUEL MILLER, JABEZ ROGERS, JOSEPH COOK, SAMUEL JEWETT

and ELIJAH FOOT were appointed a committee to receive and lay out the money."

The legislature at that time being in the practice of removing their annual sessions from one principal town to another, the court house was built with reference to their use. One high room arched overhead, with long windows, and seats rising towards the rear, and a gallery over the entrance at the west end, constituted the whole interior of the building. The General Assembly held its session in it in the years 1800 and 1806. The inhabitants of the town having contributed towards its erection, it was used also as a town room. And until the completion of the new church, in 1809, it was occupied by the Congregational Society as a place of worship, and for all meetings of the society. There being no other suitable room in the village, it was used for public meetings of every character.

By the arrangement of the roads in the vicinity and the business, which centered there, these buildings were left in an exposed condition, without enclosures, and the whole grounds around them became a thoroughfare for teams and other modes of travel. The jail, especially, came to be regarded as too unsafe and uncomfortable for the purpose for which it was designed. Accordingly, in November 1809, the legislature passed an act assessing a tax of one cent on a dollar on the lists of the several towns in the County (except the city of Vergennes, which maintained a Jail of its own) for the purpose of erecting a jail in Middlebury, to be paid into the treasury of the County, by the first day of February 1811, and authorized the Judges of the County Court to appoint an agent to superintend the erection. They appointed Hon. DANIEL CHIPMAN, who proceeded to procure a suitable lot for its site, and in December 1810, received a deed from ARTEMAS NIXON, of a vacant lot on the corner made by the road leading east from the Court House, and another leading thence north. On this he erected a jail house of stone, at a cost of about four thousand dollars. After the completion of this building, the old jail house was sold to Capt. JUSTUS FOOT, and by him was removed to the lot east of the hotel, repaired, fitted up and occupied by his family for a dwelling house. It is now owned by CALVIN HILL, Esq.

In 1814 the Court House, in its exposed condition, came to be regarded as a nuisance, rather than an ornament, and was removed to the place where it now stands. On the first of January, 1816, and after the Court House was removed, Judge PAINTER deeded to the County a tract of land, "being that piece or parcel of land, on which the Court House now stands in Middlebury, together with a free and open passage on the whole front of the same to the Center Turnpike road, so called, with a passage around the said Court House on the north, east and south sides of the same, for the purpose of repairing or fitting up the said House, or for the erection of a new Court House on the premises at all times," "for the express purpose of erecting, keeping and having a Court House for the County of Addison aforesaid, on the said premises, where the same is now erected, so long as the premises shall be used for the purpose aforesaid, and no longer," with a quit claim of the right to erect buildings on the neighboring lands within certain distances. The width of the "free passage around" the House was fixed by a deed from the Corporation of Middlebury College, who received the land by will from Judge PAINTER to R. and J. WAINWRIGHT, at one rod.

The Court House having so high a room for the sessions of the Courts, having been much racked by the removal, and being otherwise out of repair, was found to be not only inconvenient, but so cold that it could not be kept comfortable in the cold weather in winter, when most of the Courts were held; and for that reason the Supreme Court held its sessions, for several winters, at the public houses. The County Court therefore, in the year 1829, ordered SAMUEL SWIFT the Clerk, and SEYMOUR SELICK the Sheriff, to divide the building into two stories. The Agents accomplished this purpose during that season, finishing the upper story for the sessions of the Courts, with one room adjoining for a consultation room, and three rooms below for Jury rooms and other uses, in the style in which it still remains. When finished, the Court Room was said to be the best room for the purpose in the State. The expense of the alteration was \$1250,11. The town of Middlebury paid toward this expense \$250, in consideration that they were to have the use of the large room in the lower story for a town room, and a sub-

scription was made by the citizens to the amount of \$113.50. The balance was paid from the funds of the County, received for licenses, without any tax, and a large share was advanced by the clerk in anticipation of future receipts.

In the year 1844 the belfry and roof were found to need repair, and other parts of the exterior were regarded nearly as offensive, on account of its style, as the interior had been: and the court ordered the clerk to make the requisite repairs and alterations. This was accomplished the same season at an expense of \$822.70, of which the town paid \$137. The balance was paid from the County funds, as in the case of former alterations. By means of these alterations nothing remains of the first Court House but the frame.

In the meantime the stone jail built in 1811 was found, like the old one, unsafe and entirely uncomfortable and oppressive to prisoners confined in it, and not in accordance with the philanthropic views, which prevailed: and it had been many times indicted by the grand jury. The legislature, in October 1844 therefore granted a tax of six cents on a dollar of the lists of the several towns in the County except the city of Vergennes, for the purpose of erecting a new jail, provided the inhabitants of Middlebury would, before the first day of February 1845, procure conveyed to the County of Addison a suitable piece of land, to the acceptance of SILAS H. JENKINSON, HARVEY MUNSILL and SILAS POND, and appointed SAMUEL SWIFT and AUSTIN JOHNSON Agents, to superintend the erection. The lot now occupied for that purpose was purchased and paid for by the citizens of Middlebury, and accepted by the above mentioned commissioners. The agents believing that, as the population and business of the County should increase, and a more speedy communication by rail roads should be opened, the number of criminals would increase; and desiring to erect a prison, which would be adequate to such an emergency, and not require to be soon replaced, adopted a plan larger than present circumstances required. They accordingly erected a large brick building, the front of which was designed for the residence of the Sheriff's family, with an office for the sheriff. Through this room is the only communication with the prison from the outside. The prison is in the rear of the build-

ing, in which are twelve cells for securing each prisoner by himself in the night, six in the lower and six in the upper range, with a large, well lighted and ventilated room in front of them, for the occupation of the prisoners in the day time. The prisoners in this room are, at all times, subject to inspection, by means of a grated opening, from the rooms occupied by the family. By the same means the least disturbance or noise, by night as well as by day, may be heard. The expense of the cells was much larger than was anticipated. The iron work alone cost about \$1500; and slabs of strong stone were purchased and hauled from Brandon, for the floors, caps and sides of the cells, from six to eight inches thick, and of the size of the length, width and height of the cells. When the legislature assembled in October 1846, the tax had been expended, the agents were largely in debt and the jail not completed. Application was therefore made for a further tax. The representatives from the County, to whom the application is by law referred, consented to another tax of five cents on a dollar,—wholly inadequate for the purpose,—on condition that the town or village or citizens of Middlebury would give a bond to the satisfaction of the judges of the County Court, to secure the payment of all the debts, and the completion of the Jail, and by the act. RUFUS WAINWRIGHT was appointed an additional agent. To him the other agents committed the whole management of the business. A subscription was raised among the citizens, the debts were paid and the prison completed, but the plan was not carried out to its full extent. The whole expense was about \$8000. After the completion of this building, the old stone jail house was sold to Mr. OLIVER WELLINGTON, who, after great alterations and at great expense, has since occupied it as a dwelling house.

From the year 1787 to the year 1825, the County Court consisted of a chief judge, and two assistant judges, appointed expressly to those offices, and was independent of the Supreme Court. In November 1824, the Legislature passed an act reorganizing the Supreme and County Courts, and providing, that the Supreme Court should consist of a chief judge, and three assistant judges, and that the County Court, “from and after the third Thursday of Oc-

tober then next," should consist of a chief judge, who should be one of the judges of the Supreme Court, for each circuit, and two assistant judges, appointed as before required by law. And the State was for that purpose divided into four circuits. The number of Judges of the Supreme Courts and of the circuits was afterwards increased to five. To the County Courts, by this act was given "original and exclusive jurisdiction of all original civil actions, except such as are cognizable before Justices of the Peace," "and appellate jurisdiction of all causes civil and criminal appealable to such Court," and "original jurisdiction of all prosecutions for criminal offences, except such as are by law made cognizable by justices of the peace;" and in such cases the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court extended only to questions of law, arising out of the trial in the County Court. The clerk, to be appointed by the County Court, was to be also clerk of the Supreme Court.

At the session in October 1849, the Legislature made a further alteration in the organization of the judiciary system. The act passed at that session provided, that the State should be divided into four judicial circuits, and that one circuit judge should be appointed for each circuit, and these judges were constituted chief judges of the County Court in each County, and chancellors in their respective circuits. These were distinct from the Judges of the Supreme Court, and, with the two assistant judges, constituted the County Court. The first circuit was composed of the Counties of Bennington, Rutland and Addison.

The Legislature at their session in October 1857, repealed the law last mentioned, and provided that the Supreme Court shall consist of one chief judge and five assistant judges. These judges are constituted chief judges of the County Court and Chancellors in the several Counties; and for this purpose it is made the duty of the Supreme Court to assign one of the judges to each County. This act substantially restores the system adopted in 1824.

By the first constitution of the State, adopted in 1777, it was provided "that the General Assembly when legally formed, shall appoint times and places for County elections, and at such times and places the freemen in each County respectively, shall have the

liberty of choosing the judges of the Inferior Court, or Court of Common Pleas, Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace and Judges of Probate, commissioned by the Governor and Council, during good behavior, removable by the General Assembly upon proof of maladministration." By the amended constitution, adopted by the convention in 1786, it was provided, that the above mentioned officers should be annually elected by the General Assembly, "in conjunction with the council." And they continued to be thus elected, until the amendment of the constitution adopted in 1850. Until this time no provision was made in the constitution for the election of a state's attorney or high bailiff. An act passed in February 1779, provided "that in each County there shall be one State's Attorney, and that they be appointed by the respective County Courts." Col. SETH STORRS, then residing in Addison, was appointed by the Court in 1787, the first State's Attorney of Addison County. Afterwards the State's Attorney, as well as the High Bailiff, was appointed in the same manner as other officers.

At the time of the election of the Council of Censors in 1848, the evils of the then existing mode of electing County Officers by the legislature, had become more and more apparent for several years, and had come to be condemned generally by the people. The nomination, according to practice, being made by the County members had become a subject of traffic between the parties interested, and was subjected to an influence, which could not be made to bear upon the mass of the people. It also occasioned much delay of the appropriate business of the Legislature. Accordingly the convention, which was held in 1850, in pursuance of the recommendation of the Council of Censors, adopted the amendment now in force. This provides, that the assistant judges of the County Court, Sheriffs, High Bailiffs and State's Attorneys, shall be elected by the freemen of the Counties, the Judges of Probate by the freemen of their respective districts, and Justices of the Peace by the freemen of the several towns. The votes are to be given at the freemen's meeting on the first Tuesday of September, to be sent to the next session of the Legislature, and there canvassed by a joint committee of the Senate and House of Representatives. The officers chosen

are commissioned by the Governor, and hold their offices for one year from the first day of December following.

By an act of the legislature in February 1787, the County of Addison was constituted a Probate District, and Probate Courts were established in it and until the year 1824, the whole constituted but one Probate District. The Legislature, at their October session in that year, divided the County into two Districts, by the names of Addison and New Haven. The District of New Haven embraces the towns of Addison, Panton, Vergennes, Waltham, New Haven, Bristol, Lincoln, Starksborough, Monkton and Ferrisburgh. The remainder of the County constitutes the District of Addison.*

* See Appendix No. 1, for list of County Officers.

CHAPTER III.

INDIANS—INDIAN RELICS.

IN what we have to say of the Indians, the original inhabitants of the County of Addison, it is not our purpose to enter into any learned dissertation on their character, customs or history. Such treatises may be found elsewhere. We regard it as belonging to our province to speak only of their residence in the County, and of their depredations so far only as they affect the County and its settlement, and that not in detail. It is but a very short time since we commenced any inquiries on the subject. But from the accounts we have obtained, during our short examination, we find satisfactory evidence, in the Indian relics found in different towns, that the County of Addison was the established residence of a large population of Indians, and had been for an indefinite period. The borders of Lake Champlain, Otter Creek, Lemon Fair and other streams, furnished a convenient location for that purpose.*

Previous to the discovery of Lake Champlain, in 1609, the Iroquois, or Five Nations, which together formed a powerful Indian tribe, claimed and occupied an extensive country south of Lakes Erie and Ontario, and the River St. Lawrence, and extending to and including Lake Champlain and Western Vermont, and previously had been undoubtedly settled in this County. It is supposed by many, that their settlement extended as far north as the River Sorel, which forms the outlet of Lake Champlain, and that the

* In a conversation, which PHILIP BATTELL, Esq., had, several years ago, with an intelligent Indian woman, she stated that the Indian names of all the streams and waters in this region were familiarly known among the Indians, and that the old Indian, who died at Bristol, as mentioned elsewhere, could have given the names. She said the name of Otter Creek, was Wunageequ'tuc, which the French called La Riviere aux Loutres, both which mean The River of Otters. The name of Lake Dunmore, she said, was Moosalamoo, Salmon Trout Lake.

river was called the Iroquois for that reason, and Champlain so represents it. But others suppose, that it was called by that name, because it came from the country of the Iroquois. When SAMUEL CHAMPLAIN, the French leader, came up the lake on his tour of discovery, in 1609, the Iroquois had withdrawn from the islands in the north part of the lake, which now constitute the County of Grand Isle, and which the Indians, with Champlain, represented, had been inhabited by them. He says, in his account of this excursion: "I saw four beautiful islands, ten, twelve and fifteen leagues in length, formerly inhabited, *as well as the Iroquois River*, by Indians, but abandoned, since they have been at war. the one with the other." "They retire from the rivers as far as possible, deep into the country, in order not to be soon discovered." And again he says, "Continuing our route along the west side of the lake, I saw, on the east side, very high mountains capped with snow. I asked the Indians, if those parts were inhabited. They answered, yes: and that they were Iroquois, and that there were in those parts beautiful vallies, and fields fertile in corn, as good as I had ever eaten in the country." In anticipation of this expedition, CHAMPLAIN, had entered into a treaty with the Algonquins, who dwelt along the north bank of the St. Lawrence, between Quebec and Montreal, in which "they promised to assist the stranger, in his attempt to traverse the country of the Iroquois, on condition, that he should aid them in a war against that fierce people;" and he and the two Frenchmen with him, came armed for the conflict, with muskets. The Indians described the place, where they expected to meet their enemies, and they, as well as the French in Canada, spoke of this as the country of the Iroquois. On the border of the lake, near Crown Point,* as they expected, they met a war party

* Historians generally represent that this battle took place at Lake George. The editor of the Documentary History of New York, says in a note, "The reference in Champlain's map locates this engagement between Lake George and Crown Point, probably in what is now the town of Ticonderoga, Essex County." We find no authority, in Champlain's account for either of these opinions. He says they met their enemies, "at a point of a cape, which jets into the lake on the west side." We know of no other point, which better answers the description than the

of the Iroquois, who defied them. But, when CHAMPLAIN, at a single fire of his arquebus, killed two chiefs and mortally wounded another, and another Frenchman fired from another quarter, they fled in alarm, at the new and unheard of weapons of war, and were defeated.

Previous to this, incessant wars were carried on between the Algonquins, aided by the Hurons, a powerful tribe, occupying an extensive country in Canada, extending as far west as the lake from which they derived their name, on one side, and the Iroquois on the other. For many years subsequently, the latter had no aid from European Colonies or European arms. When the Dutch had possession of New York, they were too much engaged in commerce, and traffic with the Indians, to take part in their wars. But the wars still continued with great fury, between the French colonists and Indians, and the Iroquois unaided and without fire arms. The latter were particularly hostile to the French, because they had furnished their enemies with their new and deadly weapons. After the English in 1664, obtained possession of New York, they enlisted in the wars, which were still continued between the French colonists and their Indians on the north, and the English colonies and their Indians on the south, until the conquest of Canada in 1760. The Iroquois still claimed this territory, and their claim was acknowledged by the government of New York. But it does not appear, that after the discovery of the lake and their retreat on that occasion, they ever had any permanent settlement here. The Mohawks and the other confederate tribes seem to have occupied the

cape, which runs up between the lake and Bulwaggy Bay, at Crown Point. Hon. JOHN W. STRONG, thinks the place of this battle was "on Sandy Point, being the extreme north-western terminus of Crown Point, and the entrance of Bulwaggy Bay." In one of his numbers in the *Vergennes Citizen* on "Local History," after describing the place as such "as would be chosen by the Indians for defence," and giving other reasons for his belief, he says: "The writer, in passing this place, several years ago, was surprised at the number of arrow heads, that lay on the shore and in the water, and on examining closely he found several pistol and musket balls, two French military buttons, a copper coin of the fifteenth century and two clumsy musket flints."

conquering the French, as well as the savages. In 1709 and several following years, attempts were made, through the lake, to invade and conquer Canada. And while the English and French governments were at peace, for some years previous to 1725, wars were still carried on by the Indians, aided occasionally by the English and French colonies. In 1746, while the French were in possession of Crown Point, an expedition from that place was fitted out by the French and Indians, who captured Fort Hoosick, which before that had been built at Williamstown, Massachusetts, near the southwest corner of Vermont.

During all these expeditions and until the French were driven from Crown Point in 1759, this territory, including the whole of Western Vermont, was exposed to the depredations of the Indians, and settlements in it were wholly unsafe. Even the proprietors of Bennington, who had obtained a charter in 1749, did not venture to commence a settlement of that town until 1761, after the conquest of Canada.

In the short time, in which our attention has been directed to the subject, we have collected such information as we have been able, respecting the Indian relics found in the County, as the best evidence of the extent of Indian settlements. Our inquiries have not extended to all parts of the County. They have generally been made of those farmers and others, whom we have incidentally met. And now the printers threaten to tread upon our heels, and we are compelled to stop our inquiries. But such facts as we have obtained, we present below, and we trust the reader will find in them satisfactory evidence, that the Indians once had a permanent settlement here. But the permanent settlement, we think, must have closed with the discovery of Lake Champlain, by the French leader, SAMUEL CHAMPLAIN, two hundred and fifty years ago, and the manufacture of the implements we describe, of course ended then. There may have been a temporary residence of some tribes, while the French had possession of Crown Point, or during the Revolutionary war, while the British had the control of the lake. But we have, we think, the testimony of history, that after the Iroquois were first overcome off by the fire arms, which were used by CHAM-

PLAIN and his Frenchmen, they never returned to occupy this region by a permanent settlement. Besides, after the Indians were furnished by Europeans with fire-arms and other needed implements, they had no occasion to manufacture them.

The main object of our inquiries has been to find evidence of the extent of Indian settlements in the County. But, if our time had permitted, we might have presented some other views of the subject. The want of time also has prevented our giving illustrations of some of the less common manufactures, as we intended. The following are the results of our inquiries, and the sources of our information:

Professor HALL, in his account of Middlebury, in 1820, states that on the farm in the south part of the town, on which Judge PAINTER first settled, now owned by WILLIAM F. GOODRICH, on an alluvial tract, near Middlebury River.—and his statement is confirmed to us by Mr. GOODRICH,—“are found numerous articles of Indian manufacture, such as arrows, hammers, &c., some being of flint, others of jasper. A pot, composed of sand and clay, of curious workmanship, and holding about twenty quarts, has recently been dug up here nearly entire.”

ALMON W. PINNEY, states, that in an old channel of the same river, on the old SMALLEY farm, and not far from the same place, the water had washed away the bank and uncovered parts of a broken “camp-kettle,” as he called it, holding about a pailful and a half, of the same material as the above, curiously ornamented by flowers or leaves wrought on the sides. There were also found there half a bushel of perfect and imperfect arrow heads, one of which was four inches long.

ENOCH DEWEY, states, that on his farm, in Middlebury, on which his father was an early settler, two miles southeast from the village, and west of his house, on dry land near a brook between the hills, he has ploughed up on two separate spots, chippings, or fragments of stone, obviously made in manufacturing arrow heads and other implements, together with a bushel or more of perfect and imperfect arrow heads all of grey flint.

On the house lot of the writer, in the village of Middlebury, several years ago, was ploughed up an Indian pestle of hard grey

stone, made round and smooth, and rounded at the ends, about fifteen inches long and two and a half inches in diameter.

Mr. RUFUS MEAD, editor of the *Middlebury Register*, states, that on the farm on which his father lived, and his grandfather was an early settler, in the west part of Cornwall, have been found large numbers of arrow and spear heads, from two to five inches in length, and, among them, stone chips, worked off in the construction of arrow heads, and many imperfect arrow heads, apparently made by unskilful artists, or spoiled in the manufacture; that at every ploughing for many years, these relics have been ploughed up. This locality is near a spring, and on ground sloping to Lemon Fair Flats. On this slope for some distance, the land is springy, and on several of the neighboring farms, similar relics are found. In that neighborhood was also found a stone gouge, in the regular shape of that tool, six or eight inches long, and two and a half inches wide. This tool Mr. MEAD thinks, was used for digging out their canoes, the wood being first burnt and charred by fire. The arrows, he says, were of flint, partly light and partly black; and he is confident they were made of materials which are not found in this country. Otter Creek, and Lemon Fair, which empties into it, are navigable for boats from the head of the falls at Vergennes to this place.

Deacon WARNER states, that on his farm in Cornwall, first settled by BENJAMIN HAMLIN, were found, at an early day, a great variety of Indian relics, arrow heads, spear heads, and other implements of which he does not know the use: also chippings and fragments of stone, made in the construction of the articles, and defective and broken implements. Some of the articles were made of flint stone, and some, designed for ornament, of slate. This locality is on a rise of ground near a Beaver Brook and Beaver Meadow. The brook empties into Lemon Fair, and is navigable for boats from that stream, except in dry weather.

About three quarters of a mile from the above, on the same Beaver Brook, and on the farm of IRA HAMLIN, is found similar evidence of the manufacture of Indian relics, among other things, gouges, chisels and arrows, of three or four different kinds of stone.

This statement was received from Mr. HAMLIN, and communicated to us, with specimens of the manufacture, by RUFUS MEAD, Esq., who was also personally acquainted with the locality, and generally with the facts.

Major ORIN FIELD, of Cornwall, states, that on his farm, on the road leading south from the Congregational Church, scattered arrow heads have been frequently found, and Judge TILDEN says, that on his farm, not far distant, similar discoveries have been made. Major FIELD also says, that on the same farm, then owned by BENJAMIN STEVENS, he was shown by Mr. STEVENS, in 1807, what was regarded as the foundation of an Indian wigwam or hut. It was a ridge of earth, about six inches high, in a square shape, the sides of which were eight or twelve feet long, the ridge running all around except at the east end was a vacant space, apparently designed for a door way. The earth was thrown up, to form the ridge on the outside. The ridges have now disappeared.

Major FIELD also says, that on the farm of his father, on which his grandfather was an early settler, in a burying ground on sandy land, in digging a grave in 1802, there were thrown up three Indian relics, of the same size and shape and in the form of a heart, about five inches long and three wide at the top. A smooth and straight hole, one-half inch in diameter, was bored through the length, the exterior surface being swollen to accommodate the hole. The sides were worked to an edge.

AUSTIN DANA, Esq., of Cornwall states, that on his farm, which adjoins Lemon Fair, he has often ploughed up large numbers of points, from one and a half to seven inches long, all which he thinks were designed for arrow heads, intended for shooting animals of different sizes, together with some which were broken, and a stone gouge eight or ten inches long, in the proper shape of that instrument. Pieces of the arrow heads he has often used for gun flints. He has also found, at three different springs on his farm, as many different pavements of stone, designed and used for fires in their huts, which have evident marks of the effects of fire. They are made of cobble stones, pounded down and made level and solid, like a pavement, six or seven feet in diameter. He says also, that on several

farms lying north of his, he has seen hearths formed in the same way, and obviously for the same purpose. These are always on the border of the Fair, or of brooks running from the hills into it.

JESSE ELLSWORTH, of Cornwall, states, that on his farm, near Lemon Fair, on low ground, he has found arrow and spear heads often, and a pestle. Some of the spear and arrow heads are grey, and others black.

On the farm of the late JOSEPH SMITH, in Salisbury, and other farms in the neighborhood, have been found also similar relics scattered over the land. But we do not regard it necessary to mention further cases of this kind. Almost every farmer of whom we have inquired, has found them, more or less, scattered over his farm.

Deacon SAMUEL JAMES, whose farm is in the south part of Weybridge, and whose house is at the east foot of a ridge of land, about two miles west of the village of Middlebury, states that on the east side of the road, which passes by his house, on a dry sandy hill, near a Beaver Brook and meadow, are found many arrow heads, many of them imperfect, together with chippings and fragments of stone, which furnish evidence, that it had been a place for the manufacture of Indian implements. On the hill west of his house, was found a rounded relic, two inches in diameter, about a foot long, rounded at one end, and the other end made in the form of a gouge, two and a half inches wide, but not wrought to an edge.

PHILO JEWETT, Esq., of Weybridge, gave us a particular account of his discovery of Indian relics, but unfortunately our memorandum of his statement has been mislaid. He stated however, that on his farm, in the neighborhood of Lemon Fair, and at a place near a large spring, at every ploughing, he has ploughed up large quantities of arrow and spear heads, and fragments of the materials of which they were made, and some broken and imperfect articles; on the whole, furnishing evidence of one of the most extensive manufactories. He says also, that he has often used pieces of the stone, of which the articles were made, for gun flints.

COLUMBUS J. BOWDISH, Esq., of Weybridge, states, that on his farm, next north of Mr. JEWETT's, and also on Lemon Fair, and near a spring, he has often ploughed up arrow and spear heads, and chip-

pings and fragments of the materials of which they were composed furnishing satisfactory evidence, that that was a place where the relics were manufactured. He says also, that in ploughing at one time, his plough hit a stone, at the bottom of the furrow, which he dug up, and found to be a stone gouge, about a foot long. He also states, that he has found on his farm, and in the locality of the arrow heads, places designed for fires in the Indian huts, which showed the effects of fire. These resemble those described by AUSTIN DANA, except that they are made of ledge stone, and raised a little above the level of the ground.

Mr. SAMUEL WRIGHT, resides on the farm in Weybridge, between Otter Creek and Lemon Fair, and at their junction, on which his father Capt. SILAS WRIGHT, formerly lived, and on which his brother Hon. SILAS WRIGHT, Jun.,* was brought up from his infancy. It is the same farm, on which THOMAS SANFORD was the first settler, in 1775, and on which he was captured and carried to Canada, and imprisoned. Mr. WRIGHT says, that he has often found, and ploughed up on the farm, Indian arrow and spear heads, some of which were broken, also pestles and other implements. He ploughed up, in one place, where they had been buried, a collection of them, consisting of fifteen or twenty articles, some of which he presented to us. And he says, similar relics are found on all the neighboring farms. We have a perfect spear head picked up on the farm of his neighbor, JEHIEL WRIGHT, who says that other relics have often been ploughed up there. He says also, that on the narrow strip of hard land, on the border of the streams, formed by the overflowing of the water, he has seen evidence of tillage, such as corn hills and potato hills, and that on the neighboring lands are heaps of stone, which show evidence of being burnt by fire kindled about them. These he supposes were built for their fire in the huts, to secure them from being burnt. He states also, that he learned from Mr. SANFORD, that sugar was made by the Indians, in an extensive forest of maples there, and that their sap troughs were made

*In the large open ground, in the centre of Weybridge, in front of the Congregational church, the friends of Hon. SILAS WRIGHT, have erected a very handsome marble monument, and surrounded it by an iron fence.

of birch bark. If there is no mistake in this, the sugar, at least, must have been made on a temporary residence of Indians, during the Revolutionary war, or while the French were in possession of Crown Point. All signs of sugar making, by the original inhabitants, must have disappeared.

Hon. HARVEY MUNSILL, of Bristol, at our request has sent us the following communication :

“ BRISTOL, April 22d, 1859.

“ HON. SAMUEL SWIFT—*Dear Sir* :—As it regards the Indians ever having made Bristol their permanent place of residence, for any length of time, I cannot say ; but there is strong presumptive evidence tending to show, that it has been, at least, temporarily their residence and hunting ground. For traces of their presence are marked by their having scattered promiscuously over the country many of their Indian relics, such as the stone axe, grooved gouge, chisel, spear and arrow points, and some others, the names and uses to us unknown. A stone resembling a rolling pin, was found several years ago at the southerly part of the town ; and a very perfect grooved gouge was found by my father, in his life time, and since my remembrance, which, according to the best of my recollection, was about fifteen inches in length, which was deposited by him in the museum in Hartford, Connecticut. Some twelve or fourteen of the specimens, that I left with you, a short time since,—some perfect and some partly made,—were picked up by me, on my own premises in Bristol village, within a short distance of each other, that is, within twenty or twenty-five feet of each other, and from the chips, and broken fragments of the same kind of stone, I have come to the conclusion, that they were made on the spot. I have found many others, within a short distance from this location, when ploughing, which I have from time to time given away. About twenty years ago, there were two or three families of Indians, that came from Canada, and stopped a few weeks in the woods, a little north of Bristol village, between the road leading out of the village north to Monkton, and the mountain east, and among them was a very old man, who called himself about ninety-eight years of age, and who was quite intelligent, and could speak our language so as to make himself well understood. While they were stopping near our village, Capt. NOBLE MUNSON, and ABRAHAM GAIGE, two of my nearest neighbors, and myself, visited them for the purpose of making some inquiries respecting the Indian habits and customs ; and among other inquiries, how the stone spear and arrow points were made, and where the stone, from which they were made, was obtained. To these inquiries, he said he could give us no information, for he had no knowledge on the subject. He also informed us that he had himself used a steel arrow point, made in the same shape of the stone arrow points, when he was quite young. He said it had often been a subject of conversation among their people, how the arrow and spear points were made, but he had never seen any one, who could give any information on that subject, not even that which was traditionary. The stone, which I left with you, which some call an axe, he said was used for skinning deer and other

game. The old man died very suddenly, while stopping near us, and was buried in our burying ground; the Rev. FRANCIS WHITNEY preached a funeral sermon, and all the Indians attended.

Respectfully yours,

HARVEY MUNSILL."

The stone left with us and called by some an axe, is about five inches long, two wide, and three fourths of an inch thick, and reduced to an edge on one end. We have several instruments of the kind, but generally of smaller size, and thinner. The relic which Judge MUNSILL describes "as resembling a rolling pin," would well serve the use of that household implement, and we might judge it to be designed for that purpose, if we could suppose the Indians made much use of "pie crust." As their history now is understood, it has generally been called a pestle. It is a smooth round stone, twenty inches in length, two and a quarter inches in diameter in the centre, and tapering slightly toward the ends, which are rounded. It is now in the possession of the Historical Society of Middlebury.

While commencing our inquiries on the subject of Indian relics, we saw in the possession of JUSTUS COBB, Esq., of the late firm of COBB and MEAD, an instrument ingeniously wrought, in the shape of a double hatchet, but the edges on each side were only worked down to the eighth of an inch. It is five inches long and two wide. In the centre is a smooth hole obviously designed for a handle, three fourths of an inch in diameter, and of about the same depth, the surface of the stone around the hole being swollen accordingly. It might have been intended to bore the hole through, or perhaps to fasten the handle with thongs. This relic, we understood, was found at the mouth of Otter Creek. Knowing that our friend, PHILIP C. TUCKER, Esq., is much devoted to similar inquiries, and believing him to be acquainted with all the discoveries in that neighborhood, we wrote to him for such information as he might have. His letter in answer to our request, is dated March 24, 1859, and encloses a letter from Mr. JAMES CRANE, who calls it a "battle axe," and says it was picked up by his brother, GEORGE F. CRANE, at Fort Cassin, mouth of Otter Creek, "on the embankment thrown up during the last war, to prevent the British fleet from ascending to Vergennes;" that he left it in the hands of Mr. COBB, and he

adds, "I have picked up many Indian relics at Fort Cassin, and at other points on Otter Creek, in the vicinity of the Lower Falls, many of which are now in possession of P. C. TUCKER, Esq."

The first part of Mr. TUCKER's letter, relates to the same subject. He then adds:—

"This point appears to have been a place long occupied by the native inhabitants of this region. Many arrow heads and some spear heads have been found there, and whenever the ground is ploughed, even to this day, it is not uncommon to find some things of that kind. Indian implements have been found in Addison, Pantton, Ferrisburgh, Waltham and Vergennes. I have stone arrow heads, spear heads, a hatchet, a gauge, and some other articles, which I cannot give names to, from these different towns. Some of the latter, I showed to the celebrated Ojibway chief, who was here several years since, in the hope, that he could enlighten me as to their intended uses. After examining them carefully, he observed, that he had never seen any article like them among the Indians, and could not imagine what they were designed for.

Among other relics, I have a roughly formed arrow head, made of copper. There is no appearance of any *metallic* tool having been employed in its formation, and it appears to have been pounded into form with stone. I think it an undoubted antique, and that it was made before the discovery of the continent by Europeans. It was ploughed up in Ferrisburgh, not more than one and a half miles from here, some eighteen or twenty years ago. As no known locality of copper exists in this region, it seems difficult to make even a rational guess, as to where the material for this arrow head came from. I have sometimes made a visit to *dream land*, on this matter, and fancied, that it originated at Lake Superior, from the mines of which I have a specimen of native copper, which any one could readily pound even with a stone, into this or any other plain form."

"From the mouth of Great Otter Creek, through Ferrisburgh, Pantton and Vergennes, to Waltham, say thirteen or fourteen miles, Indian relics exist upon both banks, and have often been discovered. I doubt not they extend much further, probably as far towards the head waters as comfortable canoe navigation extended. Many years ago, I think in 1820 or 1830, I had quite a favorable opportunity to examine one of these localities. At the arsenal ground in this place, some forty rods below the steam boat wharf, there is a bluff of land on the bank of the creek, a portion of which was ploughed up at the time referred to, for the purpose of using the earth to fill the arsenal wharf. While it was loose from the effects of the plough, a very heavy rain fell, and thoroughly drenched it, disclosing quite a large number of arrow heads, and a great amount of chippings, or fragments, establishing beyond a question, that one manufactory of arrow heads, at least, was upon this identical spot. And a most lovely spot it must have been too, when that manufacture was going on."

"Perhaps it would not be inappropriate to say a few words about the material used for arrow and spear heads, and other relics. The larger portion of the arrow heads in my possession, are made of that kind of boulder, common upon our lands,

which the farmers dignify with the name of "hard heads," and which is a very hard silicious rock. Others are made from what I call *black jasper*, which is not an uncommon boulder rock in this region. I have one, which I am inclined to call *chlorite slate*, and several which, with my limited knowledge of mineralogy, I do not assume to name. My best spear head, is of a light colored stone, and is seven inches long. My hatchet appears to be a very fine grained clay slate stone, and is five inches long. My gouge is a fine one, thirteen inches long, and over two inches wide, at the cutting end, and looks as much like chlorite as any other rock."

' To what uses the hatchets, gouges and spear heads were put, it is very difficult to say. Certainly the former could have done nothing effectually with wood, and tradition, I think, has not told us, that the Indians ever used the spear as a weapon of war. My own rough impression is, that the spear heads meant *fish* and not *men*."

At the time of our first application to Mr. TUCKER, a request was published in the *Vergennes Citizen*, that any persons having information of Indian relics, would communicate it to him. On the 26th of April, 1859, he wrote us again on the subject, and among other things says: "The notice in the *Citizen*, had no other results than bringing in a few additional arrow heads. One piece of information however, grew out of it, which I believe to be true, that my copper arrow head, has another of the same metal to match it, and a far better one." It was ploughed up a few years ago, in Ferrisburgh; and, although he has not been able to see it, he says, "I have no doubt of its existence." In speaking of the Indian relics in Bristol, which Judge MUNSHILL has described, he says, "I have very reliable information as to the existence of similar relics in Monkton, and particularly in the region of the pond. Some thirty years ago, an Indian burying ground was disclosed in that vicinity, and some four or five skeletons discovered, which were much talked about at the time, and which I quite well recollect." Mr. TUCKER states also, that about thirty-five years ago, he was shown on the farm of NORMAN MUNSON, Esq., in Panton, what was called an "old Indian fire place," which he thinks "showed evidence of fire," and he thinks it could not have been made by any body but Indians.

In the possession of the Historical Society, are a mortar and pestle, found several years ago, on the farm owned by the late Col. JOHN HACKETT, on White River, in Hancock. The pestle is twelve inches long and two inches in diameter, and undoubtedly of Indian

manufacture. The mortar consists of a stone, eight inches square, and eight and a half inches deep. In the top is a round smooth cavity, which constitutes it a mortar, five and a half inches in diameter, and three and a half inches deep. This hollow was probably wrought by the Indians, but the shaping of the stone shows rather evidence of civilized manufacture. We do not mention either of these as evidence of a permanent and ancient residence. They were probably left by the Indians in some of their excursions against the settlers at the east. The White River would form a commodious route for that purpose.

We have indeed little confidence in any thing, except the articles composed of stone, and those obviously made on the ground, as evidence of such residence. The forests must have covered and obliterated, and time wasted all other satisfactory evidence.

Anticipating the very natural inquiry, of what materials these relics were composed, and where the Indians found them, we wished, in addition to the information given by Mr. TUCKER, relating to those in his possession, to furnish satisfactory testimony respecting those in our possession. We accordingly requested Rev. C. F. MUZZY, who has made mineralogy, for many years, a prominent subject of examination and study, to examine the specimens, and give us the requisite information. Mr. MUZZY, was graduated at Middlebury College in 1833, has since been a missionary in Southern India, and is now on a visit to this country for his health. The following is his reply :

“ HON. S. SWIFT—*My Dear Sir* :—The slight examination I have been able to make, of those arrow heads and other curiosities, in your possession, has convinced me, that they are composed of Quartz Rock, Flint or Horn-stone, sometimes called Corneus Limestone, Chlorite Slate, and a species of Feldspathic, or Granitic Rock, and that they are found in this vicinity, either *in situ*, or as cratic boulders. Of most, if not all of them, I have found specimens in this town.

Believe me yours, very respectfully.

C. F. MUZZY.”

CHAPTER IV.

FRENCH SETTLEMENT IN ADDISON COUNTY—CONQUERED BY THE
BRITISH AND THEIR RETREAT—GRANTS OF LAND BY THE FRENCH.

The first settlement by Europeans in the County of Addison, was made by the French, on the east shore of Lake Champlain, opposite Crown Point, in pursuance of their plan to extend their settlements, and fortifications, and set limits to those of the English. In the year 1730, a few individuals or families, came up the lake from Canada, and established themselves at Chimney Point, in Addison, and built a block house and windmill, on the point where the tavern house now stands. The next year troops were sent out and erected Fort Frederic, on the west side of the lake, now known as Crown Point. They afterwards in 1756, built a fort at Ticonderoga. Other settlers followed in the train of the army, and probably most of them were in some way attached to the garrison. Both the French and English, regarded the control of this lake of great importance, as one of the most convenient lines of communication into each other's territory, in the northern part of America. The British, in the early part of that century, planned several expeditions through the waters of the lake to Canada, for the purpose of subduing that province to the crown of England, but they uniformly failed. After the treaty of Utrecht, in 1713, a season of peace prevailed, between the English and French, which gave the French in Canada, an opportunity to improve their condition; and when wars afterwards succeeded, they were confined to other disputed territories, on this continent, by which the French were enabled to extend themselves in this direction without opposition. But during the French and Indian war, which commenced in 1755, one of the principal objects of the British, was to make an effective descent upon Canada, and for that purpose an expedition was set on

lost every year from the commencement of the war, to proceed with a large force through the lake. A disastrous failure attended them all, until the expedition under General AMHERST, in 1759. These failures occurred through the ignorance and indiscretion of ministers at home, or the imbecility of the officers entrusted with the command of the troops. In the year 1758, more efficiency was given to the war by the appointment of Mr. PITT to the ministry. General ABERCROMBIE was that year appointed to command the expedition against the French forts on Lake Champlain, and prosecuted the enterprise with more vigor than his predecessors. He advanced as far as Ticonderoga, and made a violent assault on the fort; but meeting with unexpected obstacles, he retreated without taking the place. In the year 1759, General AMHERST, commander in chief of the British forces in America, took command of the expedition, reached Ticonderoga, and without much opposition captured the fort there on the 27th of July, and before he reached Crown Point, the French garrison had burnt their forts on both sides and abandoned them. The settlers also in the neighborhood retreated with the army, and thus ended the French settlement in the County of Addison.

The French settlers had cleared off the timber along the shore of the lake, three or four miles north of Chimney Point. Most of it probably had been used in erecting the forts and other buildings connected with them, and the cabins of the settlers, and by the garrisons and families in the neighborhood. This was probably the extent of the settlement, although the population was rather thickly crowded together. The cellars and other remains of numerous huts were found afterwards by the English settlers, scattered over the whole tract, and many of them are still seen there. On the STRONG farm were four, on the VALLANCE farm three or four, and on others two or three. The buildings of the French settlers were burnt the next year after their retreat, by the Mohawks. KALMER, the author of an early history, which Hon. JOHN W. STRONG found in Montreal, gives an account of his visit to the place in 1749. He says, "I found quite a settlement, a stone windmill and fort, with five or six small cannon mounted, the whole inclosed by embankments." The remains of these embankments surround-

ing Chimney Point, we have seen within a few years, and they are probably still to be seen. KALMER further says, that, within the enclosure, they had a neat little church, and through the settlement well cultivated gardens, and good fruit, such as apples, plums and currants. Old apple trees and plum trees, planted by them are still standing.

The first permanent settlement by the English in this County, was on that tract. This clearing and its beautiful location on the borders of the lake, were the occasion that a prosperous neighborhood was found here earlier than elsewhere, and it was for some time considered the most eligible place for holding the courts, when the County was first organized. In the spring of 1765, ZADOCK EVEREST, DAVID VALLANCE and one other person came from Connecticut, and commenced a clearing on their respective farms, on which they lived and died, about three miles north of Chimney Point. They put in some crops and remained until fall. In September, of the same year, JOHN STRONG and BENJAMIN KELLOGG, came on by the lake to Crown Point, then in possession of the British. After stopping a day or two, they extended their explorations east and south, and went as far east as Middlebury Falls. While on this expedition, they were delayed by a violent storm and swollen streams for several days, until their provisions were exhausted, and they were two days without food. When they returned to the lake, STRONG concluded to settle on the farm on which he resided until his death, and which is still in the possession of his grandson, Judge STRONG. With the aid of the settlers, STRONG erected a log house around an old French chimney, near the lake. VALLANCE, in a similar manner, converted the remains of another French hut into a tenement, which he afterwards occupied, for some years, with his family. In the fall they all returned to Connecticut. In February following, STRONG came on with his family, and was the first English settler, it is said, in Western Vermont, north of Manchester, and his fourth son, JOHN STRONG, Jun., in June 1765, was the first English child born north of that place. EVEREST and KELLOGG, who were married during the winter, came on with their wives in the spring, and VALLANCE also returned with his family the same

season. From JOHN W. STRONG, mentioned above, we have obtained many of the above details. His father's family resided in the house with his grandfather, and he learned the facts from his grandparents, and especially from his grand-mother, who lived to a great age, and often amused him in his childhood with the stories of their early history.

The result of AMHERST'S expedition was, that on the opening of the campaign of 1760, Montreal was surrendered to him; and Quebec and every other French post in Canada having been conquered and captured, the whole province, by the treaty which followed on the 10th day of February 1763, was surrendered to the British government.

The French, having had uninterrupted possession of Lake Champlain for nearly thirty years, not only claimed the control of its waters, but the right to the lands on both sides of it, and made grants of seigniories to favorite nobles and officers, and of smaller tracts to others. The grants in the County of Addison were less numerous than at the north part of the lake. As early as the year 1732, a grant had been made to one CONTRE COUER, Jun., lying on both sides and including the mouth of Otter Creek. On the 7th day of October 1743, a grant was made to "SIEUR HOCQUART Intendant of New France," of a tract "about one league in front by five leagues in depth, opposite Fort St. Frederic, now Crown Point, bounded on the west by the lake, east by unconceded lands," north and south the lines running east and west. And on the first of April 1745, another grant was made to HOCQUART, lying north of and adjoining the other tract, three leagues in front on Lake Champlain, by five leagues in depth. Both these, making four leagues on the lake, and five leagues east and west, constituted the "Seigniority HOCQUART," which extended from Willow Point, near the south line of Addison, north, and included the whole of the towns of Addison and Panton, and is represented on an old English map, as extending, as it must, some distance beyond Otter Creek, and included Middlebury and other lands east of that stream. Soon after the execution of the treaty, by which the French government surrendered Canada to the British, on the 7th of April 1763, Hoc-

QUART conveyed his seigniority to MICHEL CHARTIER LOTBINIERE. As the inhabitants of Canada, by the treaty, became the subjects of the British government, it was claimed that the grants by the French government were valid, and should be confirmed by the British government, and LOTBINIERE prosecuted his claim perseveringly before the latter government, from the time of his purchase until the year 1776, before it was settled.

LOTBINIERE claimed, as evidence of his title, the "frequent clearances," and "various settlements," on these lands, which the war had not wholly obliterated; although it is probable that none of them were made under the authority of this grant. It is stated by Governor TAYLOR of New York, in a letter to Lord DARTMOUTH, president of the board of trade and plantations, "that when the French, on the approach of Sir JEFFREY AMHERST, in 1759, abandoned Crown Point, there were found no ancient possessions, nor any improvements worthy of consideration, on either side of the lake. The chief were in the environs of the fort, and seemed intended mostly for the accommodation of the garrisons."

The lines between the provinces of Quebec and New York, had been settled by the British government on the 20th of July 1764, at the latitude of 45° on the lake. It was finally decided, that as the territory south of the River St. Lawrence, including the lands on Lake Champlain, was owned by the Iroquois, or Five Nations, and that these tribes, by treaty, had submitted to the sovereignty and protection of Great Britain, and had been considered subjects, all the possessions of the French on Lake Champlain, including the erection of the forts at Crown Point and Ticonderoga, were an intrusion and trespass, and of course that government had no right to make grants there, and therefore the British government denied the claim of LOTBINIERE, as they did all others, for lands south of latitude 45°, but consented to give him lands in Canada.

In the meantime, all the lands, which had been granted by the French government east of Lake Champlain, had been granted anew by the governor of New Hampshire, in the name of the British crown, and the governor and council of New York had spread their grants to the reduced officers and soldiers of the army, which

had been disbanded after the conquest of Canada, on the top of the New Hampshire grants.

And previous to all these, and many years even before the settlement of the French, in 1696, GODFREY DELLUS purchased of the Mohawks, who claimed the whole of this territory, a large tract of land extending from Saratoga along both sides of Hudson River and Wood Creek, and on the east side of Lake Champlain, to twenty miles north of Crown Point, and the purchase was confirmed under the great seal of New York; but in 1699, the grant was repealed by the legislature, "as an extravagant favor to one subject."

The Mohawks also, on the first day of February 1732, sold to Col. JOHN HENRY LYDIUS, a large tract of land embracing most of the Counties of Addison and Rutland. There is a map of this tract in the possession of HENRY STEVENS, Esq., President of the State Historical Society, of which we have a copy, laid out into thirty-five townships, with the name of each. The southeast corner is at the sources of Otter Creek, and the northwest at its mouth, and the territory embraces the whole length of that stream, running diagonally through it. The west line—and the east is parallel with it—is marked as running from the north, south 16 degrees west 58 miles 20 chains. On the back of the map is the following certificate. "Feb. 2. 1763. A plan of a large tract of land, situated on Otter Creek, which empties itself into Lake Champlain, in North America, easterly from and near Crown Point, purchased by Col. JOHN HENRY LYDIUS, of the Mohawk Indians, by deed dated Feb. 1732, and patented and confirmed by his Excellency WILLIAM SHIRLEY, Esq., Governor of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, August 31, 1744, divided into townships, and sold by the said LYDIUS, to upwards of two thousand British subjects, chiefly belonging to the Colony of Connecticut."

The New York town of Durham, and probably other towns in Rutland County, were originally settled under this grant. Two of the citizens, JEREMIAH SPENCER and OLIVER COLVIN, belonging to that town, in their petition to the General Assembly of New York, dated October 17, 1778, say, "That the township of Durham was originally settled by the late inhabitants, under Col. JOHN LYDIUS:

That discovering the imperfection of their title, they applied to and obtained letters patent under New York. That many of the inhabitants (of which your petitioners are) have since been compelled to purchase the New Hampshire title to their lands, under a penalty of being turned out of their possessions by a mob."

CHAPTER V.

NEW HAMPSHIRE CHARTERS—CONTROVERSY WITH NEW YORK.

BENNING WENTWORTH was appointed governor of New Hampshire, in 1741, with authority from the King to issue patents of unoccupied lands within his province. Claiming that that province extended the same distance west as the provinces of Connecticut and Massachusetts, that is, to within twenty miles of Hudson River, on the third day of January 1749, he granted the charter of Bennington, on that line, to which he claimed the province extended, and six miles north of the line of Massachusetts. This grant occasioned a correspondence and mutual remonstrances between the governors of New York and New Hampshire, in relation to the rights of their respective provinces. The governor of New York claimed and contended, that the grant to the Duke of York in the year 1663, which was confirmed to him in the year 1674, after the conquest of the Dutch in 1673, and extended to the west bank of Connecticut River, settled the claim of New York.*

Notwithstanding the controversy between the governors of these two provinces, and the opposition made by New York, to the issuing of grants by New Hampshire, Governor WENTWORTH continued to grant charters of townships, as applications were made for them. During the following five years, from 1750 to 1754 inclusive, sixteen townships were chartered, principally on the east side of the mountains. From that time to the year 1761, during the prosecution of the French war, the territory became a thoroughfare for the excursions of French and Indian scouting parties, and was, on that ac-

* Nearly the whole history, which we have given of the controversy between the governors of New Hampshire and New York, and subsequently, between the latter and the Green Mountain Boys, is taken from original documents, in the Documentary History of New York.

count, in so disturbed a state, that no grants were made or asked for. After the conquest of Canada, in the year 1760, and after quiet and security had been restored to the territory, numerous applications were made, and in the year 1761 no less than sixty towns were chartered. In that year, all the towns in the County of Addison were chartered, except as follows: Ferrisburgh, Monkton and Pocock, now Bristol, were chartered in 1762, Orwell, and Whiting, in August 1763, and Tanton, was re-chartered on the 3d of November 1764. And this was the last charter granted by the governor of New Hampshire, within the territory. The whole number of charters of towns granted by him in this State, is one hundred and thirty-one, besides several others to individuals.

Lieut. Governor COLBEN of New York, disturbed and alarmed by the great number of grants made by New Hampshire, issued his proclamation on the 23th day of December 1763, warning all persons against purchasing lands under those grants, and requiring all civil officers "to continue to exercise jurisdiction in their respective functions, as far as to the banks of Connecticut River," and enjoining the sheriff of Albany to return to him "the names of all and every person or persons, who under the grants of New Hampshire, do or shall hold possession of any lands westward of Connecticut River, that they may be proceeded against according to law."

On the 19th of March, 1764, the governor of New Hampshire, issued a counter proclamation, in which he contends, "that the patent to the Duke of York is obsolete, and cannot convey any certain boundary to New York, that can be claimed as a boundary, as plainly appears by the several boundary lines of the Jerseys on the west, and the colony of Connecticut on the east," and encourages the grantees under New Hampshire, "to be industrious in clearing and cultivating their lands," and commands "all civil officers to continue and be diligent in exercising jurisdiction in their respective offices, as far westward as grants of land have been made by this government, and to deal with any person or persons that may presume to interrupt the inhabitants or settlers on said lands, as to law and justice doth appertain."

At an early period of the controversy, and soon after the first

grant was made by New Hampshire, it was agreed by the governors of the two provinces, to refer the question in dispute to the king: but no decision had yet been made. The king had, on the 7th of October 1763, issued a proclamation in behalf of the reduced officers and privates of the lately disbanded army, directing bounty lands to be granted them. In view of this order, and the great number of grants made by New Hampshire, in the disputed territory, Governor COLDEX, about the time of issuing his proclamation, above mentioned, wrote several pressing letters to the board of trade in England, insisting on the grant to the Duke of York, as conclusive of the right of New York, and urging a speedy decision of the question. In his letter of the 6th of February 1764, he represents, that great numbers of the officers and soldiers had applied to him for grants: and in his letter of the 12th of April, of the same year, he says, "about four hundred reduced officers and disbanded soldiers, have already applied to me for lands, pursuant to his Majesty's proclamation, which at this time are to be surveyed for them in that part claimed by New Hampshire. Your lordships will perceive the necessity of determining the claim of New Hampshire speedily." It was charged also, at the time by the claimants under New Hampshire, and stated by historians of that period,—on what authority we know not,—that a petition, with forged signatures of many of the New Hampshire settlers, was sent with the governor's letters to England, requesting that the territory should be annexed to New York. In the public remonstrances of the New Hampshire claimants, conjectures were expressed, that there were "more or less wrong representations made to his majesty to obtain the jurisdiction," and that his "majesty and ministers of State had been egregiously misinformed." However that may be, in pursuance of the urgent solicitations of Governor COLDEX, the king in council, on the 20th day of July, 1764, without notice to the opposite party, adopted an order, settling the west bank of Connecticut River as the boundary of the two provinces.

The only charter of which we have knowledge, as being issued, by the governor of New Hampshire, after the king's order, was that of Panton, as herefore mentioned, dated November 3, 1764, which

was before notice of the order had been received in this country, that not arriving until the following spring. On the receipt of the order, Governor Wentworth, as well as the governor of New York, issued his proclamation, giving notice to all persons concerned, of the decision of the King in council, fixing the boundary. And in all his subsequent transactions, he seems to have acquiesced in the decision, and recognized the jurisdiction of New York over the territory. The claimants under New Hampshire expressed no opposition to that jurisdiction at the time, not suspecting that the titles, which they had derived from the British government through one agent, and had paid for, would be superseded by grants from the same authority, through another agent, and that, under these circumstances, they should be compelled to re-purchase their lands, under much more oppressive conditions, in order to hold them.

And such would seem to have been the views of the British government at home. The order in council settling the boundary does not seem to be a decision, as to what had been or legally was the boundary, but it says, the King "doth hereby order and declare the western banks of the river Connecticut," "to be the boundary line between the said two provinces." On the 11th of April 1767, Lord SHELburne, president of the board of trade, wrote to Governor Moore, of New York, reciting that two petitions had been presented to the King, "one by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the other by SAMUEL REXFORD, in behalf of himself and more than one thousand other grantees," says, "In my letter of the 11th of December, I was very explicit upon point of former grants; you are therein directed to take care, that the inhabitants lying westward of the line, reported by the Lords of Trade, as the boundaries of the two provinces, be not molested, on account of territorial differences, or disputed jurisdiction: for whatever province the settlers may belong to, it should make no difference in their property, provided their titles to their lands should be found good in other respects, or that they have been long in uninterrupted possession of them." And he adds, "the unreasonableness of obliging a very large tract of country to pay a second time the immense sum of thirty three thousand pounds in fees, according to the allegation

of this petition, for no other reason than its being found necessary to settle the line of boundary between the colonies in question, is so unjustifiable, that his majesty is not only determined to have the strictest inquiry made into the circumstances of the charge, but expects the clearest and fullest answer to every part of it."

On the 24th of July 1767, the King in council, adopted an order on the subject. This order, after reciting at length the report "of the committee of council for plantation affairs," says, "His Majesty, with the advice of his privy council, doth hereby strictly charge, require and command, that the governor of New York, for the time being, do not (upon pain of His Majesty's highest displeasure) presume to make any grant whatever, of any part of the lands described in said report, until His Majesty's further pleasure shall be known concerning the same."

While the controversy was pending between the two governments, and before the King's order settling the boundary was known, a collision arose out of it in Pownal. But the facts in the case presented a different question from that, which so extensively prevailed afterwards among other patents granted by New York. One called the Hoosick patent was granted as early as 1688. The charter of Pownal, when granted by New Hampshire, included part of this patent; and the New Hampshire grantees claimed possession of certain lands, on which several Dutch families had settled under the Hoosick patent. In August 1764, the sheriff of Albany, in pursuance of the proclamation of Governor COLDEN, before mentioned, hearing that the New Hampshire claimants had dispossessed several of the Dutch families, and were about to drive off others, went in pursuit, taking with him "two of the justices and a few other good people," and arrested "SAMUEL ASHLEY, who called himself a deputy, SAMUEL ROBINSON, a justice of the peace," and others, who claimed the land, and committed them to the jail in Albany. But they were afterwards bailed and not further prosecuted. Governor WENTWORTH being informed of this transaction, wrote to Governor COLDEN, remonstrating against it, and requesting him to release the prisoners. To which the governor, with the advice of the council, replied, that as the offence was committed "within the

undoubted jurisdiction of New York, he could do no further therein, than to recommend that the bail be moderate," and added that the controversy respecting the boundary "already lies with His Majesty."

As soon as the boundary was settled by the king's order, a large number of grants were made by the governor of New York, to reduced officers and disbanded soldiers, and others, who made application for them, and soon extended over nearly the whole territory chartered by New Hampshire. The valleys of Lake Champlain and Otter Creek, were granted principally to reduced officers, and a large territory, north of Addison County, was reserved for non-commissioned officers and soldiers. A small tract was also reserved for them in the County of Addison, near the bend of the creek in Weybridge and New Haven, and perhaps some contiguous territory.

At first the governor and council of New York, seemed desirous to encourage actual settlers under the New Hampshire grants to take out new charters under New York, in confirmation of their former titles. On the 22d of May 1765, the following order was adopted :

"The council taking into consideration the case of those persons, who are actually settled on the grants of the governor of New Hampshire, and that the dispossessing of such persons might be ruinous to themselves and their families, is of opinion, and it is accordingly ordered by his Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, with the advice of the council, that the surveyor general do not, until further order made, return on any warrant of survey, already or which may hereafter come to his hands, of any lands so actually possessed under such grants, unless for the persons in actual possession thereof as aforesaid."

Another order was adopted, July 11, 1766, by which it was ordered, that all persons holding or claiming lands under "the New Hampshire grants, do as soon as may be, appear by themselves or their attorneys, and produce the same, together with all deeds, conveyances, or other instruments, by which they derive any title or claim to said lands, before his Excellency in council, and the claim of such person or persons, which shall not appear as aforesaid, within the space of three months from the date hereof be rejected."

In pursuance of these orders, several individuals in the towns west of the mountains, made application for a confirmation of their New Hampshire titles; but much larger numbers, and nearly all in some towns east of the mountains, took confirmations of their titles from New York. We have no documents which enable us to ascertain the number or dates of the grants made, from the time of the order establishing the boundary to that which forbid further grants. It seems there was some delay on account of the stamp act then in force, the governor being "determined not to issue any papers except such as were stamped," and "the people refusing to take them on that condition;" "of course the offices were shut up," as represented by Governor MOORE, in his letter of the 9th of June 1767, in answer to Lord SHELburne's letter above mentioned. But he adds, "No sooner was the stamp act repealed and the offices opened again, but petitions were preferred, by many of the inhabitants here for grants of land lying on Connecticut River." Again, referring to the order limiting the time for making application, he says, "This had the desired effect, and in a few months, petitions, memorials, &c., were lodged by persons sent up from thence, setting up claims to ninety-six townships."

Petitions had been sent up from the towns east of the mountains, for establishing one or more counties in the territory, and on the 22d of October 1765, the committee made a report to the governor and council, that, on account of the state of the country, it was inexpedient to establish counties, but they recommended to the governor to "appoint a competent number of fit persons for conservation of the peace and administration of justice in that part of the province." And on the 11th day of July 1766, an ordinance was adopted," for establishing a court of common pleas and a court of general sessions of the peace," and judges and other officers were appointed. On the 19th of March 1768 "a large tract of land containing forty townships," was by letters patent "erected into a County by the name of the County of Cumberland." This County was bounded east by Connecticut River, south by Massachusetts, west by the highest part of the Green Mountain, and north by the same, or nearly the same, line which divides the present

Counties of Windsor and Orange. On the 23d of December 1772, it was ordered, that writs issue for the election of two representatives to the general assembly from that County.

On the 16th of March 1770, all the territory east of the mountains, and north of the County of Cumberland, was formed into a County, by the name of Gloucester, and the usual county officers were appointed. Soon after the territory west of the mountains, and north of the north lines of the towns of Sunderland and Arlington, and embracing considerable territory also west of the lake, was established as a County by the name of Charlotte; and the remainder of the New Hampshire Grants was embraced in the County of Albany. Previous to this division into counties, the whole territory was regarded as belonging to the County of Albany, and justices of the peace, and other officers of that County, exercised authority in that territory. By order of the governor and council, September 8, 1773, an ordinance was issued establishing courts, to be held in the County of Charlotte annually, "at the house of PATRICK SMITH, Esq., near Fort Edward."

The order of the king in council, staying further grants of land, seems not to have been very satisfactory to Governor MOORE, but he and his successors professed to regulate their proceedings by it, and applications were frequently made by succeeding governors to the board of trade, urging that the order might be rescinded. But the board of trade, instead of rescinding it, complain that the governor of New York "had taken upon him," contrary to the instructions, "to pass patents of confirmation of several of the townships," and had "also made other grants of lands within the same."

CHAPTER VI.

OPPOSITION WEST OF THE MOUNTAIN—NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE INHABITANTS OF BENNINGTON—AFFAIR AT WALLOOMSIC—CAPTURE AND TRIAL OF HOGGH—COL. REED'S CLAIM—CAPTAIN WOOSTER'S GRANT—DUNMORE'S GRANT.

WHILE a considerable portion of the settlers on the east side of the mountain, seemed thus inclined to submit to the claims of New York, and accept confirmations of their charters, nearly all on the west side refused to take such confirmations under the governors proclamation, with "a quit rent of half a crown or two and six pence sterling," for each hundred acres, and with the exorbitant fees of the governor and other officers concerned in completing the titles, which it is said, amounted to one or two thousand dollars for each charter. And the controversy with New York was transferred from the governor of New Hampshire, to the claimants under his grants. These chose, rather than submit to the terms required, and pay for their charters a second time, under less favorable conditions, to defend the titles they had in such way as they must; and accordingly made their preparations for that purpose. They proceeded to organize the several towns and appointed the requisite officers, and so far as their circumstances allowed, adopted the laws of New Hampshire; but, being without any established government or law, where their peculiar circumstances required, they became "a law unto themselves." To be the better prepared for the impending crisis, the several towns west of the mountains appointed committees of safety, and these occasionally met in convention, to consult for the general defence. For this purpose they organized a military force, "of which ETHAN ALLEN was appointed Colonel Commandant, and SETH WARNER, REMEMBRANCE BAKER, ROBERT COCKRAN and others were appointed captains." Under these leaders every able

bodied man stood ready, when called on, to enter the service. Thus organized they waged an exterminating war against all settlers, under a New York title, on lands which were claimed under a New Hampshire grant, and against all persons acting officially within the territory, under the laws of the former State. All rights and powers, claimed under the authority of that State were denied and resisted. If surveyors were sent to survey lands granted under that authority, they were met by a competent force and expelled from the territory. If justices of the peace, or constables living in the territory, who had taken office under the government of New York, attempted to discharge their several duties, or otherwise interested themselves in favor of that government, the leaders with a competent force visited and arrested them, and having administered sufficient punishment, banished them from the territory. If any man, claiming title under that State settled himself down in his hut on lands claimed by the "Green Mountain Boys," they appeared on the ground, and, if he hesitated to relinquish his claim, leveled his cabin to the ground, desolated his land and crops, and left him and his family, houseless and destitute, to seek a shelter where else he might. No sheriff or other officer was permitted to serve process from the courts of Albany. If by any means writs of ejectment had been served, as was the case in the early state of the contest, and judgments obtained in the courts at Albany, or if any of the active agents, in defence of their claims, had been indicted as rioters, and the sheriff had been sent, with the *posse comitatus*, to execute the writs of possession, or arrest the rioters, he was set at defiance by a superior force and prevented from serving his process. The inhabitants called out from the neighboring towns in New York, to constitute a *posse*, were too little inclined to use force against the Green Mountain Boys, to be relied on, and generally fled before they came to close quarters, and left the sheriff, with his few friends from Albany to fight the battles. At a general meeting of the committees at Arlington, in March 1774, it was, among other things, resolved, "That as a country, we will stand by and defend our friends and neighbors so indicted, (as rioters) at the expense of our lives and fortunes."

The claimants under New Hampshire, were not permitted, in the Courts of New York, to give their grants in evidence in defence of their claims. The Green Mountain Boys therefore, decided to make no further defence there, but to defend themselves, as they might, by force. Whenever the leaders chose to give their proceedings the forms of law, they established a court among themselves, and constituted themselves the triers, as well as complainants and executive officers, and passed and executed their own sentence.

While these proceedings were going on in the "New Hampshire Grants," the friends of New York were constantly plying the governor and council and legislature of that State for relief by complaints, petitions and remonstrances, accompanied with affidavits to sustain them, while the government looked on with amazement and were puzzled to find means adequate for a remedy. The "Bennington Mob," as they were called, had not only inspired the "Yorkers" in the territory with terror and dismay, but satisfied the New York government, that the means within their control were insufficient to meet the force brought against them. On the 19th of May, 1772, Governor TRYON of New York wrote a letter to Rev. WILLIAM DEWEY, minister of Bennington, and other inhabitants of that place and vicinity, inviting them to lay before the government "the causes of their illegal proceedings," and requesting them to appoint Mr. DEWEY and certain others, as agents to lay their grievances before the governor and council, and giving assurance of "full protection to any persons they should choose," "except ROBERT COCHRAN, as also ALLEN, BAKER and SEVIL, mentioned in his proclamation of the 9th of December last, and SETH WARNER, whose audacious behavior to a civil magistrate has subjected him to the penalties of the laws of his country."

STEPHEN FAY and his son Dr. JONAS FAY were appointed agents, and by them was sent a general answer to Gov. TRYON's letter, dated June 5, 1772, explaining the grounds of their grievances, signed by Mr. DEWEY and others; and of the same date a more detailed reply, in explanation of their proceedings, signed by ETHAN ALLEN, SETH WARNER, REMEMBRANCE BAKER and ROBERT COCHRAN. These letters were laid by the governor before the council and refer-

red to a committee, who recommended that the governor "should afford the inhabitants of those townships all the relief in his power, by suspending, until his Majesty's pleasure should be known, all prosecutions in behalf of the crown, on account of the crimes with which they stand charged by the depositions before us, and to recommend to the owners of the contested lands, under grants of this province, to put a stop during the same period to all civil suits concerning the lands in question." This recommendation was adopted by the council, and when communicated, through the agents, to the people of Bennington and vicinity, was received with enthusiasm and accepted by them as entirely satisfactory. But this promise of peace was soon disturbed and the controversy was renewed and prosecuted as fiercely as ever.

The governor of New York, with the advice of the council, issued one proclamation after another, offering large rewards for the apprehension of ALLEN, BAKER, WARNER, COCERAN, and other rioters to no purpose. To as little purpose the legislature passed severe resolutions; and on the 9th of March, 1774, a law, which, for its savageness, has no superior in the legislation of any civilized community. Referring to the riots which had taken place in the counties of Albany and Charlotte, by certain of the leaders, naming ETHAN ALLEN and others, it enacts, among other provisions, that "as often as either of the above named persons, or any other person shall be indicted in either of the counties aforesaid, for any offence perpetrated after the passing of this act, made capital by this or any other law," the governor is authorized "to make his order in council, requiring and commanding such offender or offenders to surrender themselves respectively, within the space of seventy days next after the first publication thereof," "to one of his Majesty's justices of the peace for either of said counties respectively, who are hereby required to commit them without bail or mainprize," to the jail in New York or Albany. "And in case the said offenders shall not respectively surrender themselves pursuant to such order," "he or they shall from the day to be appointed for his or their surrender, as aforesaid, be adjudged and deemed to be convicted and attainted of felony, by verdict and judgment without benefit of clergy."

Governor TRYON had before that, on the 31st of August, 1773, called on Gen. HALDIMAND, commander of the British forces, for a sufficient number of regular troops to quell the riots, and afterwards, September 1, 1774, a similar application was made to Gen. GAGE, both of which were declined. Application was also made to the home government for regular troops and declined.

The first open and forcible collision, arising out of this controversy, subsequent to the occurrence of the Hoosick patent, as mentioned above, occurred on the Walloomsic patent. This patent was granted to JAMES DELANCY, GERARDUS STUYVESANT and others, July 15, 1739, about ten years previous to the first charter granted by New Hampshire, and was the field on which Bennington battle was fought, August 16, 1777. The charters of Bennington and Shaftsbury covered a part of this tract, and the farm of James Breckenridge was laid on this interfering territory. "Commissioners and a surveyor were appointed to make partition of certain lots," on this tract, "for the more effectual collecting of his Majesty's quit rents." Lieut. Governor COLDEN in his proclamation of December 12, 1769, states that "the said commissioners, being employed in surveying the said lots, were on the 19th day of October last past, interrupted and opposed by a number of armed men, tumultuously and riotously assembled for the declared purpose of preventing the said partition, who by open force compelled the commissioners and surveyor to desist from their survey, and by insults and menaces, so intimidated the said commissioners, that, apprehensive for the safety of their persons, they found it necessary to relinquish any further attempt to perform their trust," and represents "that JAMES BRECKENRIDGE, JEDIDIAH DUE, SAMUEL ROBINSON and three others were among the principal authors and actors in the said riot," and commands and requires the sheriff of Albany to apprehend and commit "the before named rioters and offenders," and if necessary to take the *posse comitatus*. BRECKENRIDGE and ROBINSON, in their affidavit, deny that they resisted the surveyor, but say "a few more people assembled, a few of which had guns;" that they "forbid their running, for we held our lands by our New Hampshire charters," "and if they run,

they must run it as disputed lands." Whatever the facts were, the commissioners and surveyor quit the premises.

Actions of ejectment were soon after commenced against BRECKENRIDGE and eight others, whose land had been granted to reduced officers and others, and at the succeeding term of the circuit court at Albany, judgments were obtained against him and three others. It is said "that BRECKENRIDGE made no defence, being within twenty miles of Hudson's River;" but more probably because his land was included in the Wadlowsie patent, granted prior to the charter of Bennington.

From the result of these legal proceedings, "It was hoped that the riotous spirit would subside," and commissioners were again sent to make partition of the patent, who made complaint, that "on the 20th of September they were again opposed and prevented from effecting said partition by a riotous and tumultuous body of men," "among whom was SILAS ROBINSON," and three others named. And thereupon Governor DUNMORE issued a new proclamation for the apprehension of the rioters. The sheriff afterwards reported, that in obedience to the proclamation, he had arrested SILAS ROBINSON, one of the rioters; and thereupon the governor and council made an order directing the attorney general to prosecute him. He was afterwards bailed but never tried.

The following case, among numerous others which we might record, will illustrate the character of the proceedings of the "Green Mountain Boys," or at least show how they were regarded and represented by the "Yorkers." BENJAMIN HOUGH, who represented himself as an "Anabaptist preacher of the gospel," resided in Socialborough, a New York town on Otter Creek, embracing the whole or a part of each of the towns of Clarendon and Rutland, had accepted a commission of justice of the peace, and was an active friend of New York. In March, 1775, he preferred his petition to Governor TRYON, stating his sufferings, and praying for relief, accompanied by his own affidavit, and those of other persons to sustain his petition. In his own affidavit he states, among other things, "that he was attacked by about thirty persons, a number of whom were armed with firelocks, swords and hatchets,

was seized and carried a prisoner to Sunderland," where he was kept in custody until they sent to Bennington "for ETHAN ALLEN and SETH WARNER:" that on the 30th day of January 1775, "the rioters appointed a court for the trial of this deponent, which consisted of the following persons, to wit: ETHAN ALLEN, ROBERT COCHRAN" and four others, "and they being seated, ordered this deponent to be brought before them;" "that ETHAN ALLEN laid the three following accusations to the charge of this deponent, to wit: 1. This deponent had complained to the government of New York of their (the rioters) mobbing and injuring BENJAMIN SPENCER and others: 2. That the deponent had dissuaded and discouraged the people from joining the mob in their proceedings: and 3dly, That the deponent had taken a commission of the peace under the government of New York, and exercised his office, as a magistrate in the County of Charlotte, alledging that this deponent well knew, that they (the mob) did not allow of any magistrate there;" that the judges having consulted together for some time, ETHAN ALLEN pronounced the following sentence, which he read from a paper, which he held in his hand, to wit: "That he should be tied up to a tree and receive two hundred lashes, on the naked back, and then, as soon as he should be able, should depart the New Hampshire Grants. and not return again, upon pain of five hundred lashes." After the execution of this sentence, ALLEN and WARNER gave a certificate, that he had "received a full punishment for his crimes," and the inhabitants were directed to give him "a free and unmolested passport toward the city of New York," "he behaving as becometh."

But not to trespass further upon the province of State history, in detailing the incidents of this controversy, we add only a few, which occurred within the limits of the County.

Colonel REID, of a Royal Highland regiment, had received from the government of New York a grant of land, as a reduced, or half pay officer, on Otter Creek, including the falls at Vergennes, whose tenants had been dispossessed, in August 1772, by IRA ALLEN and others. This occurred, while the agents, who had been appointed by the inhabitants of Bennington, at the request of Governor TRYON,

as stated in a former page, were in a negotiation with the governor and council, which resulted in the conciliatory measure by them adopted. This proceeding, when it came to the knowledge of Governor TRYON, so irritated him that he wrote a severe letter to the "inhabitants of Bennington and the adjacent country," charging them with a "breach of faith and honor, made by a body of your people in dispossessing several settlers on Otter Creek," at the very time the negotiations were going on, and requiring their "assistance in putting forthwith those families, who have been dispossessed, into re-possession of the lands and tenements."

The following is the substance of the answer of the committees of "Bennington, and the adjacent country" to this letter, signed by ETHAN ALLEN, clerk, on the 25th of August 1772, in explanation of the proceedings complained of. The people, having noticed, that "Mr. COCKBURN, a noted surveyor," had taken "a tour to the northerly parts of the New Hampshire Grants," (on Onion River) "to survey and make locations on lands," which had been granted by New Hampshire, "rallied a small party and pursued and overtook him and his party, and in their pursuit, passed the towns of Panton and New Haven, near the mouth of Otter Creek, dispossessed Col. REID of a saw mill in said Panton, which by force," and without right, "he had taken from the original owners more than three years before, and did, at the same time, extend his force, terrors and threats into the town of New Haven," "who so terrified the inhabitants, (which were about twelve in number) that they left their possessions and farms to the conquerers, and escaped with the skin of their teeth." "Col. REID, at the same time, and with the same force, did take possession of one hundred and thirty saw logs, and fourteen thousand feet of pine boards," and converted them to their own use. In 1769, a man by the name of PANGBORN, built there a saw mill, and a few claimants under the New Hampshire grant, were in possession of the lands in that year. After they were driven off, REID's men built a grist mill. The committees also deny, that there was any breach of faith, as the result of the negotiations between Governor TRYON and the delegates from Bennington was not known at the time, and the agents

were not authorized to complete any arrangements, so as to be binding on the people of the Grants, until ratified by them. They also promptly refused to obey the governor's requisition to afford assistance in restoring Col. REID's men to the possession of the lands. And thus ended the result of the negotiations for conciliatory measures between the parties in 1772.

The latter part of June, or the fore part of July 1773, Col. REID, engaged several Scotch immigrants, lately arrived at New York, to settle on his lands, of which he had been dispossessed, as above mentioned, and went with them to Otter Creek. On entering upon the lands, they found several persons settled on them, claiming title under the New Hampshire charters. One of them was JOSHUA HYDE, who afterwards removed to Middlebury, and settled in the south part of that town. Col. REID, in some way, got rid of these tenants, and entered into possession of the mill and lands claimed by him. The Green Mountain Boys, learning this fact, ALLEN, WARNER and BAKER, with a strong force, consisting, as represented by the Scotch tenants, of more than one hundred men well armed, marched for Otter Creek, and on the 11th day of August, appeared on the ground, drove off the Scotchmen, burnt their houses and other buildings, tore down the mill, which, it was said, Col. REID had lately built, broke the mill stones in pieces and threw them down the falls. JOHN CAMERON, one of the Scotch tenants, in his affidavit, as to the manner in which they went into possession under Col. REID, states, "That the persons" (the tenants in possession) "did agree voluntarily, to remove from Col. REID's land, till the King's pleasure should be known, provided Col. REID would purchase their whole crops then on the ground, that they might not lose their labor, which Col. REID consented to, and paid them the full value for it accordingly." The affidavit also states, "That the deponent was much surprised to see, among the rioters, JOSHUA HYDE, one of the three men, who had entered into a written obligation with Col. REID, not to return again, and to whom Col. REID, on that account, had paid a sum of money for his crops." *

* Mr. THOMPSON, in his history of Vermont, in stating this transaction, says nothing about the voluntary removal of the New Hampshire claimants, and a

A tract of "three thousand acres of land on the east bank of Lake Champlain, within a mile and a quarter of the fort there," was granted under the great seal of the Province of New York, "to DAVID WOOSTER, † of New Haven, in the Colony of Connecticut, Esquire, being a captain on half pay, reduced from His Majesty's fifty-first regiment." This tract was in the north part of Addison and probably extended into a part of Panton. In his deposition laid before the governor and council, dated February 20, 1773, he states, among other things, that "on visiting these lands ‡ he found five families, which had then lately settled," "some of them, pretending to have no right at all, promised to leave said lands. The others the deponent then served ejectments on, which issued out of the inferior court of common pleas of Albany. Whereupon they also submitted, and desired the deponent to give them leases of part of said lands, which this deponent consented to; gave them permission to remain on the lands, acknowledging him to be their landlord, until it was convenient for him to return and give them leases in form." He states also, "that in the month of September preceding, he went to his lands in order to give leases to the settlers," and "that upon the deponent's arrival on his lands, the settlers thereon and others, collected together in a body, about thirteen in number; when the deponent offered those who had settled on his

promise not to return on being paid for their crops, but says, "On their arrival, the New Hampshire settlers were a second time compelled to abandon the place. Rev. Dr. MERRILL, in preparing his history of Middlebury, obtained from HYDE's family, after his decease, also a different account of the manner in which he was dispossessed of his farm. This states, that he was arrested and made his escape, and sent back word to Col. REID, that, if he was allowed to depart in peace, he would never come back to his land, and soon after sold it, and the purchaser took possession. HYDE, on his way to Connecticut after his expulsion, met ALLEN's company at Sudbury and returned with him.

† This Captain DAVID WOOSTER, at the commencement of the revolutionary war was appointed by the legislature of Connecticut a major general of the troops of that State. Being at home in New Haven in April, 1777, when the British troops came up the sound and burned the town of Danbury, he volunteered and joined the troops suddenly raised to oppose them, and while rallying the troops under his command, received a mortal wound, of which he soon died.

‡ This first visit was in 1767 or 1768.

lands, leases, which they absolutely refused to accept, on any terms whatever; but declared that they would support themselves there by force of arms, and that they would spill their blood before they would leave the said lands." Whereupon, "being well armed with pistols," he "proceeded to serve two declarations in ejectment on two principal ring-leaders," "notwithstanding they continued their firelocks presented against him during the whole time; that after the deponent had served the said ejectments, they declared with one voice, that they would not attend any court in the Province of New York, nor would be concluded by any law of New York respecting their lands."

Among other grants by New York, within the present limits of Addison county, a considerable tract of land was granted or reserved to the Earl of Dunmore, who was governor of that State in 1770 and 1771, embracing, as it appears by an ancient map, the town of Leicester and at least a part of Salisbury, from Otter Creek to the Green Mountains, and including the lake which still bears his name. On the borders of this beautiful lake, and in the midst of the romantic scenery which surrounds it, a large establishment has been recently built, as a retreat for the accommodation of summer visitors, and for the resort of pleasure parties at other seasons, by an incorporated association, chiefly under the superintendence of the late EDWARD D. BARBER, Esq. The establishment has since been purchased by a company of southern gentlemen, who are still enlarging and ornamenting it, intending to make it a summer residence for themselves and a large number of others.

While the question was pending in 1772, as to the location of the public buildings for the county of Charlotte, Lord DUNMORE's land was proposed for that purpose, especially for the reason that it was as central at that time as the state of the population would allow, and because it was near Crown Point, where military aid could be obtained to quell riots of the disaffected, if necessary. Lord DUNMORE offered, that if his lands were fixed on, he would "most cheerfully build a court house or other buildings, which may be thought requisite."

CHAPTER VII.

EFFECTS OF THE WAR AND THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE
ON THE CONTROVERSY—CONCLUSION OF THE CONTROVERSY.

It was well, probably, for the contending parties, that the commencement of the revolutionary war opened a new field and presented a new object for their efforts and anxieties, and checked the asperity of the controversy and the violence of the collisions. The controversy, which in the outset, was sufficiently complicated, had become more and more entangled and hopeless of settlement by every movement which had been made on either side.

But, although the commencement and continuance of the war changed in some measure the position and operations of the parties, it did not change their settled and unwavering determination to maintain their several claims. The State of New York had no thought of surrendering their claim to jurisdiction over the New Hampshire Grants. And the inhabitants of the Grants had as little thought of ever submitting to that jurisdiction; but they began more openly and boldly to insist on establishing themselves as a separate and independent State. And several circumstances at this time occurred to encourage their hopes. They had before acknowledged the sovereignty of the British government, and their right to dispose of their destiny. By the declaration of independence, that sovereignty was thrust out of the way, and Congress had taken its place. They had renounced all allegiance to New York, and did not acknowledge that government as having any authority over them. And as they had not been received into the Union, in the capacity of a separate State, they denied the authority of Congress to exercise any authority over them, until they were placed upon the footing of the other States, as a part of

the confederacy by which that body had been constituted. They were of course, in their own view, without a government.

Until this time the counties of Cumberland and Gloucester had generally submitted to the government of New York, which had established courts and appointed the officers of those counties. But there were always many individuals opposed to that jurisdiction. The idea of establishing a separate government led the inhabitants to look around them and consider their state. The condition of their land titles was uncertain. Many of them, from various causes had failed to obtain a confirmation of their titles, and they began to discover that the heavy quit rents and expenses which would be required would be an unreasonable burthen, "which," in language not very different from that of more modern land reformers "they consider an innovation upon the rights of mankind, for whose use such lands were given by a bountiful Providence, without reservation, and which ought not, in their opinion, to be charged with taxes, other than for the general support and defence of the State and government." They discovered also that the seat of government was so remote that "the obtaining of justice is rendered laborious, tedious and expensive," and that the influence of the government is "weak and dissipated," "to the great encouragement of the lawless and wicked."

It is understood that the excitement which raised the mob in March, 1775, to stop the proceedings of the court at Westminster, and arrest and imprison the judges and other officers, had no reference to the question of land titles, or jurisdiction. But it is not improbable, that the scarcity of money, and their inability to pay the heavy amount of debts put in suit, which produced that excitement, might have stimulated an opposition to the government, whose courts and sheriff were a terror to the whole community. Accordingly, "a meeting of the committees appointed by a large body of inhabitants, on the east side of the Green Mountains," was held at Westminster, on the 11th day of April, of that year, which adopted spirited resolutions against the government of New York. In the meantime, agents were sent from the west side of the mountains to encourage those rising dispositions, and ascertain the pre-

vailing sentiments of these counties, as to the establishment of an independent government.

Soon after ETHAN ALLEN and SETH WARNER returned from the capture of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, they "set off on a journey to the Continental Congress, with the design of procuring pay for the soldiers under them, and soliciting authority to raise a new regiment in the New Hampshire Grants. In both these objects they were successful." The Congress "recommended to the Provincial Congress of New York, that after consulting General SCHUYLER, they should employ, in the army to be raised for the defence of America, those called 'Green Mountain Boys,' under such officers as the said 'Green Mountain Boys' should choose." ALLEN and WARNER, notwithstanding their outlawry, repaired with the recommendation, to the Congress of New York: and that body with some delay and reluctance, resolved that a regiment of Green Mountain Boys should be raised, not exceeding five hundred men, and to consist of seven companies; who were to choose their own officers, except the field officers. "A lieutenant colonel was to be the highest officer." The committees of several townships assembled at Dorset, and made choice of "SETH WARNER, lieutenant colonel and SAMUEL SAFFORD for major."

"Knowing the value of Colonel ALLEN's experience and activity, General SCHUYLER persuaded him to remain in the army, chiefly with a view of acting as a pioneer among the Canadians."* On the 24th of September, 1775, in an attempt to capture Montreal, with a small body of troops, he was taken prisoner through the failure of Major BROWN to co-operate with him, as agreed between them.

By virtue of his election as lieutenant colonel, WARNER promptly raised his regiment, and joined the forces under General SCHUYLER, in the invasion of Canada, and performed very active and useful services. But neither he or his officers had received their commissions from the government of New York. On the 16th day of September, 1775, General MONTGOMERY commanding the

* SPARK'S Memoir of ETHAN ALLEN.

forces, which were besieging St. John's. "issued an order appointing WARNER colonel of a regiment of Green Mountain Rangers, requiring that he should be obeyed as such." This, it is presumed, was designed only as a temporary appointment, and on the 20th day of November following, on account of the destitute condition of his troops, General MONTGOMERY discharged them, and they returned home. But WARNER was not long permitted to remain inactive. In January, 1776, he received a letter from General Wooster, after the defeat of the Americans at Quebec, commending him and his "valiant Green Mountain Boys," in which he says, "let me beg of you to raise as many men as you can, and have them in Canada with the least possible delay, to remain till we can have relief from the Colonies. You will see that proper officers are appointed under you," and promises that his troops should "have the same pay as the Continental troops." WARNER promptly complied with the request, and he and his troops were in Canada in a very short time, and remained there until the retreat of the American army. Through the hostility of the government of New York toward the Green Mountain Boys, or for some other culpable cause, he had received no commission, and he and his troops performed those services as volunteers. "Congress, on the 5th day of July, 1776, resolved to raise a regiment out of the troops who had served with so much reputation in Canada, to be commanded by a lieutenant colonel. WARNER was accordingly appointed lieutenant colonel and SAMUEL SAFFORD, major." *

No event had more decided tendency to strengthen the cause of the Green Mountain Boys, and encourage them to hope that Congress would finally recognize their independence, or to exasperate the people and government of New York, than the raising of this regiment, separate from and independant of that government. Complaints were made by the Yorkers on the Grants, that this measure rendered their condition more uncomfortable and hopeless; and the government of New York sent frequent remonstrances to Congress, demanding that the regiment should be disbanded.

* D. CHIPMAN'S Memoir of WARNER.

In the meantime, reports were in circulation, that a considerable number of the members of Congress, were in favor of admitting Vermont into the Union, as an independent State. On the 11th day of April 1777, THOMAS YOUNG, of Philadelphia, an ardent friend, wrote a letter to the inhabitants, that after learning "the minds of several of the leading members," he could assure them, that they had nothing to do but to choose delegates to a convention, who should choose delegates to the General Congress, and form a constitution for the State." And he added, as a reason, why nothing more had been done in their behalf, "until you incorporate, and actually announce to Congress your having become a body politic, they cannot treat you as a free State."

In the meantime measures had been taken preparatory to a declaration of independence, and at an adjourned meeting of the convention, held at Westminster, on the 15th day of January, 1777, composed of delegates from all the Counties, a formal declaration was adopted, "that the district of territory, known by the name and description of the New Hampshire Grants, of right ought to be, and is hereby declared forever hereafter, to be considered as a free and independent jurisdiction or State, by the name of New Connecticut, *alias* Vermont." And at a meeting of the convention afterwards, on the 4th day of June following, it was resolved that the State should be called Vermont. JONAS FAY, THOMAS CHITTENDEN, HEMAN ALLEN, and REUBEN JONES were appointed a committee to present to congress the above declaration, with the reasons which induced it.

In pursuance of the advice of Mr. YOUNG, the delegates who had been chosen for that purpose, met at Windsor, on the 2d day of July 1777, and adopted a constitution, fixed a time for the choice and meeting of the legislature under it, and appointed a committee of safety to act in the meantime. The session of the convention was closed in haste, occasioned by the news of the invasion of the country by a formidable force under General BURGOYNE; and by reason of that event and the movements which followed, notice for the election and meeting of the legislature was not seasonably given. The convention was therefore again called together, revised the constitution,

and appointed the second Thursday of March 1778, for the meeting of the Assembly. Mr. YOUNG had recommended the new constitution of Pennsylvania, providing for a single legislative body, with some alteration of the powers of the governor's council. This recommendation was adopted. But the people of Pennsylvania soon became dissatisfied with their constitution, and added a senate to the legislature. Ours remained with little alteration until the year 1835, when it was also amended so as to provide for a senate.

Against all these proceedings the New York government sent to Congress their remonstrances. On the other hand, the Green Mountain Boys, continued to urge their claims to be acknowledged as an independent State, and to be admitted into the Union. They claimed, that in declaring their independence, they only imitated the example of the Continental Congress; that the colonies were oppressed by the British government, and they had been oppressed by the New York government; that all the civil and political institutions of the country, which had been established under the authority of the crown of Great Britain, had been dissolved by their separation from that government, and so far as the government was concerned, all were reduced to a state of nature, and were left to form such government as they might choose; and that, in this respect, the people of Vermont were in the same condition as the other territories, and had the same right to establish their own government. As early as the 15th of May 1776, and before the declaration of American independence, the Continental Congress, recognizing the disorganized state of the country, and the propriety of a legal organization, before the adoption of such declaration, had "resolved, that it be recommended to the respective assemblies and conventions of the United Colonies, where no government, sufficient to the exigencies of their affairs, has been hitherto established, to adopt such government as shall, in the opinion of the representatives of the people, best conduce to the happiness and the safety of their constituents in particular, and America in general."

But Congress was placed in an embarrassing and delicate position, "between two fires." They saw the danger of irritating either party. Their proceedings were therefore vacillating in the extreme.

What they did at one time was undone at the next; and no final decision was ever adopted by that body.

In the meantime the Vermonters continued to adopt measures to reduce the government to system and order, in its operations over all parts of the State. The inhabitants were also becoming, not only accustomed to, but satisfied with, its operation. The settlement of the State and its population were rapidly increasing and adding strength to the government, and the claims of New York were thereby becoming every year more hopeless, and the condition of the friends of that government more uncomfortable.

ETHAN ALLEN, who had been captured in Canada in 1775, and held by the British a prisoner of war, being exchanged and released in May, 1778, soon returned home and resumed his position as leader of all the active operations of the State.

The government of Vermont did not hesitate to extend its jurisdiction and authority over the adherents of New York, as well as others. There still remained in Brattleborough, Guilford, and other towns in Windham county, in the year 1779, many individuals of this class, who endeavored to oppose the proceedings of Vermont. These were taxed and drafted into service as others, and "a sum of money was assessed on those who were supposed to have done least in the war." Some "acquiesced in it rather than contend." Among other acts, the Vermont party, in the spring of that year "ordered Capt. JAMES CLAY, Lieut. BENJAMIN WILSON" and another, who were militia officers appointed by New York, "to provide a man to go into the service." But they failing to obey the order, two of their cows were seized, and ordered to be sold, to pay the man hired by the Vermonters. On the day appointed for the sale, Colonel PATTERSON, who commanded the regiment of militia under New York, with his "field officers and a considerable part of the regiment," assembled and rescued the cattle, and delivered them to the owners. Within a week or two, ETHAN ALLEN, with an armed body of troops, appeared there and arrested and imprisoned Colonel PATTERSON, and nearly all the officers of the regiment.

The legislature of Vermont, at their session in February, 1781, passed "a general act of amnesty in favor of such persons," who

had opposed its authority. Upon which these persons submitted to the authority of the State, and took the oath of allegiance. Afterwards, the legislature, for the defence of the frontiers, ordered "a quota of men to be raised in the several towns throughout the State." And thereupon the same "disaffected persons," "in the town and vicinity of Guilford, in the southern part of the County of Windham" raised a formidable opposition "to the raising and paying of them," and for the purpose of aiding the opposition, the government of New York appointed several of the "disaffected persons to "civil and military offices," who undertook to use the laws of the State of New York over the citizens of this State. Upon which ELMER ALLEN, at the head of a military force, was sent by order of the governor "to assist the sheriff of Windham County, in the execution of the laws." TIMOTHY PHILIPS, sheriff, TIMOTHY CHURCH, colonel, and more than one hundred civil and military officers and privates, were arrested and brought before the courts, and five of them were sentenced to banishment, and confiscation of property, and others to fines and imprisonment.

These proceedings were occasions for new appeals from Governor LINCOLN to Congress for their speedy and efficient interference. On occasion of the latter proceeding, Congress, on the 5th day of December, 1782, adopted resolutions, condemning, in severe terms, the action of Vermont, and among other things, requiring the people of that State, "without delay to make full and ample restitution to TIMOTHY CHURCH, TIMOTHY PHILIPS, HENRY EVANS, WILLIAM SHATTUCK, and to all others as have been condemned to banishment, or confiscation of estate, or have been otherwise deprived of property," "and that they be not molested in their persons or properties, on their return to their habitations in the said district."

These resolutions were answered in a very spirited letter from Governor CHITTENDEN, denying the authority of Congress to interfere in the internal proceedings of Vermont, containing a very able argument in justification of their measures, and promptly refusing to obey the requirement of Congress. The General Assem-

bly also adopted a letter to Congress, embracing more concisely the same sentiments.

These are among the last acts of interference, in the affairs of Vermont, on the part of Congress, or the New York government. The legislature of that State, on the first day of March, 1786, thought proper to make the compensation, which Vermont had refused, to the last mentioned sufferers: and granted them a township of land in the county of Chenango, eight miles square, named Clinton, now Bainbridge.

In the meantime the people of Vermont, with quiet and undisturbed prosperity, continued to press forward in their career of separate and independent existence, with increasing indifference to the hostility or favor of any exterior power. At length on the 15th day of July, 1789, the legislature of New York, tired of the fruitless controversy, giving up all hope of reducing the territory to her jurisdiction, and desirous, it is said, of increasing the northern influence in Congress, which Vermont might bring, passed an act appointing commissioners, with full power to acknowledge her independence, and settle all existing controversies. On the 22d of October following, the legislature of Vermont appointed commissioners on their part with similar powers. * On the 7th of October, 1790, the commissioners agreed upon the boundaries and the terms of settlement: that Vermont should be admitted into the Union, and on such admission all claims to jurisdiction on the part of New York, should cease, and as a compensation to those, who claimed lands under New York, Vermont should pay thirty thousand dollars. On the 24th of the same month, the legislature of Vermont passed an act, accepting the boundaries and settlement, and agreeing to pay \$30,000. On the 10th of January, 1791, a convention of delegates chosen for the purpose, passed and subscribed a resolution, "approving, assenting to and ratifying" the

* The commissioners appointed on the part of New York were ROBERT YATES, JOHN LANSING, Jr., GULIEN VERPLANK, FREDERICK HILL, FREDERICK BENSSEN, and MELANCTON SMITH, and on the part of Vermont, ISAAC VERNON, STEPHEN R. BRADLEY, NATHANIEL CHIPMUN, ELIJAH PAINE, IRA ALEXANDER, STEPHEN JACOB and ISRAEL SMITH.

Constitution of the United States; and on the 18th day of February of that year, Congress passed an act, "that on the 4th day of March following, the State of Vermont shall be received and admitted into the Union, as a new and entire member of the United States of America."

CHAPTER VIII.

INCIDENTS OF THE WAR IN THE COUNTY OF ADDISON.

THE revolutionary war, which had been ended some years before Vermont was admitted to the Union, furnished but few incidents, which can properly constitute a part of the history of Addison County. Very few permanent settlements had been made in the county before its commencement. It is said that JAMES MCFARLANE, a Scotchman, commenced a settlement in territory now in the city of Vergennes, in the year 1766; and other settlements were made on the creek above the falls in New Haven, now Walpole, as early as 1769. Col. JOHN CHIPMAN, in 1766 made a small clearing on his farm in Middlebury, but did not return to it, with his family, until 1773; and in the latter year several other families were settled in that town. And it is said that in the charter limits of Middlebury, there were thirteen families, and in that part of Cornwall, afterwards annexed to Middlebury, eight families, before the war. Col. PHILIP STONE commenced preparation for a settlement on the border of the lake in Bridport in 1768, and several other families were settled in that town before the war. JOHN CHARTIER also commenced some improvements, on the south end of Mount Independence in Orwell some years before the war, but no permanent settlements, we believe, were made in that town until after the war. As stated on a previous page, JOHN STRONG, ZADOC EVEREST, DAVID VALLANCE, BENJAMIN KELLOGG, and probably a few others, had made preparations for a settlement, on the borders of the lake in Addison, in 1765, and took possession with their families in 1766. The late SQUIRE FARRIS, of Vergennes, in a statement made to PHILIP C. TUCKER, Esq., to which we have referred elsewhere, says that his father, PLTER

FEARNS, came to and settled on the shore of the lake in Pantego, in 1765. Mr. FEARNS, and his wife came through the woods from Bennington County, on horse back, he carrying his son SEYMOUR, then two years old, in his arms; and that there were then no settlements on the lake, and that the nearest, and only neighbors were the British garrison at Crown Point. A few other families were settled there before the war. The first settlements, by families, in Whiting and Leicester, were in 1772, in Cornwall and Monkton in 1774; in Weybridge, and in that part of New Haven, since annexed to Weybridge, in 1775. In no other towns in the County had permanent settlements been made at that time; and in the towns mentioned, the number of families was small.

After the retreat of the American troops from the disastrous expedition into Canada, in 1776, and especially after General BURGoyNE, in 1777, with his formidable army, came up the lake, sweeping away every resistance before him, a large proportion of the settlers deserted their farms, and removed to places of greater safety at the south. The lake and its forts being in possession of the British, the whole country lying opposite was exposed to marauding and foraging parties of British, Indians and tories, who plundered and carried off all such moveable property as was left behind and desired by them. And in 1777, while the British were in quiet possession of the forts, before the surrender of BURGoyNE in October of that year, several of the men were taken captive; and such as remained in captivity until the occurrence of that event were then released. The family of Col. STONE, living on the lake shore, in Bridport, was, among others in that region, frequently annoyed by bodies of Indians, who visited them for plunder. But as they did not generally, molest the women and children, except for plunder, he kept out of the way and remained safe for some time. But in October 1777, having been falsely charged by a tory, as being concerned in burning his house, a British vessel in the lake sent a boat on shore, captured him and carried him a prisoner to Ticonderoga, where he was confined about three weeks, and until the fort was evacuated after the surrender of BURGoyNE.

SAMUEL BLODGETT, a son of ASA BLODGETT, an early settler in Cornwall, now Middlebury, had built him a log house, just over the present line between Middlebury and Cornwall, where he resided many years afterwards. About the same time in 1777, an Indian party came upon him and took him prisoner, tied him to a tree, and threatened to burn him. But being a freemason, he made himself known to the British officer commanding the party, who was also a mason, and he was released and taken to Ticonderoga, where he was set to work with a team.

At the same time JAMES BENTLEY senior, who had settled in Middlebury, and his daughter were at the house of BLODGETT, and to escape from the Indians, he crawled into a hollow log, and the women threw brush over the entrance and so effectually concealed him, that he escaped.

The following account of the capture of ELDAD ANDREWS, taken in 1777, at the same time as SAMUEL BLODGETT, was furnished by Mr. RUFUS MEAD, who obtained it from those who received it directly from Mr. ANDREWS :

ELDAD ANDREWS, one of the first three settlers in Cornwall, was taken by Indians, and carried across the lake. The savages came to his house, while he was in the field at work ; finding Mrs. A. engaged in making cheese they devoured the curd and everything eatable in the house, without committing any personal violence. Leaving the house, they captured Mr. A. and took him to Ticonderoga. He was at length released and an Indian deputed to row him across the lake. Mr. A. had not gone far before he discovered the Indian on his trail, and the conclusion was that the Indian coveted his scalp. He made no sign however, but armed himself with a heavy club. As twilight came on, he passed a deep ravine, in going into which he passed over a large fallen tree, and laid down behind it concealed. His pursuer was soon standing over him on the log. ANDREWS was a man of great physical strength, and did not give the savage a long time to ascertain his whereabouts, when with a heavy blow with his club on the side of his head, he leveled the Indian and marched home without further molestation, and without requiring the aid of his pursuer.

JOSHUA GRAVES and his son JESSE GRAVES, while hoeing corn on the bank of the creek in Salisbury, on the farm since owned by the late JOSEPH SMITH, on which they were among the earliest settlers in that town, were captured at the same time by about two hundred Indians. The widow of JOSEPH SMITH was a daughter of the younger, and grand-daughter of the elder, GRAVES: and the farm has ever remained in the family. The captives were taken to the settlement of JEREMIAH PARKER in Leicester, where he and his son, JEREMIAH PARKER, Jun. were also captured, and all the prisoners were taken to Ticonderoga. The two elder captives were soon released: but the two younger were detained prisoners, on board a vessel, for three weeks, until there was time to send to Canada and get a return.

ASA BLODGETT, father of SAMUEL BLODGETT, above mentioned, who had settled on the creek in the south part of Cornwall, and remained after the general retreat of the inhabitants, was taken prisoner also by the Indians. His captors placed him on a stump, with a rope around his neck, the end of which was thrown over the limb of a tree. He remained in this position for some time, expecting instant death, with which the Indians threatened him: but he was afterwards released. The facts we have stated relating to the capture of ASA and SAMUEL BLODGETT, and the escape of BENTLEY, were received from the late ABRAHAM WILLIAMSON of Cornwall, and his wife, who was a daughter of SAMUEL BLODGETT.

But the most serious and extensive depredations, on the inhabitants of the County were committed in the fall of 1778. In the early part of November in that year, a large British force came up the lake in several vessels, and thoroughly scoured the country on both sides. Such of the men as had the temerity to remain on their farms until that time they took prisoners, plundered, burnt, and destroyed their property of every description, leaving the women and children to take care of themselves as they could, in their houseless and destitute condition. Not a town in the County, where any settlements had been made, escaped their ravages. The only building in Middlebury, not wholly destroyed, except two or three in the southeast part of the town, which they seem not to have found, was

a barn of Col. JOHN CHURMAN, which had been lately built of green timber, which they could not set on fire and which they tried in vain with fire-balls and fods to burn down. The marks of their hatchets, on the timbers, are still to be seen.

As there are no public documents or history, within our knowledge which give any general account of these proceedings, in other terms, and all the persons concerned in the transactions are supposed to be dead, we have collected information from such sources as were in our power, and in stead of condensing it into a continuous narrative, we choose to give it as we have received it from the several sources.

The following statement was made by PHILIP C. THOMAS, Esq., of Vergennes, principally from information obtained by him, at our request, from NATHAN GRISWOLD and AMOS GRISWOLD, sons of NATHAN GRISWOLD, one of the captives:

"In the month of November 1778, the following persons of the north and west portions of Addison County were taken prisoners by the British forces, and transported on board British vessels to Canada: NATHAN GRISWOLD, taken in that part of New Haven which is now Vergennes, JOHN GRISWOLD and ABONIJAH GRISWOLD, in that part of New Haven which is now Waltham, and DAVID GRISWOLD, of New Haven. These four men were brothers: BEN ROBERTS and DURAND ROBERTS, father and son, were taken at Vergennes; PETER FERRIS and SQUIRE FERRIS, father and son, of Panton, were taken on the west side of Lake Champlain, while hunting; JOSEPH HOLCOMB, ELIJAH GRANDY and ——— SPALDING at Panton, JOHN BISHOP at Monkton and ——— HOBBS at New Haven. These were part of the captives taken during the fall of 1778, consisting in all of two hundred and forty-four. They were all taken to Quebec and imprisoned. Tradition says, that but forty-eight were brought back in June 1782, and exchanged as prisoners of war at Whitehall."

"Of the thirteen persons above named, all returned but one. JOHN GRISWOLD Jun. enlisted on board a British vessel at Quebec, upon a promise, that he should be restored to his liberty, on the arrival of the vessel in Ireland. He was never heard of afterward.

All these men are believed to be now dead. The deaths of those known are as follows: NATHAN GRISWOLD, died at Waltham, July 17, 1811, aged 85 years; DAVID GRISWOLD, at New Haven, August 11, 1820, in his 60th year; ABONIAH GRISWOLD, at Green County, Illinois, in 1847, aged 83 years; ELI ROBLATS, at Vergennes, in 1806, age unknown; DURAND ROBLATS, at Ferrisburgh, in 1817, aged 57 years; PETER FERRIS, at Panton, in 1811, aged 92 years; SQUIRE FERRIS, at Vergennes, March 12, 1849, aged 87 years."

The following information was communicated by MILD STOW, Esq., of Weybridge, son of CLARK STOW, one of the captives mentioned below, and published in the *Middlebury Register*, August 30, 1854. A short memorandum, which we have seen in their family records, of their capture, imprisonment, and the death of DAVID STOW, in the hand-writing of CLARK STOW, authenticates the principal facts.

"November 8, 1778, a marauding party of British, Indians and Tories, invaded the quiet homes of four families in this vicinity, being the only inhabitants in Weybridge, burned their houses and effects, killed their cattle and hogs, and took THOMAS SANFORD, and his son ROBERT, DAVID STOW and his son CLARK, CLAUDIUS BRITTEL and his son CLAUDIUS, and JUSTUS STURDEVANT, and carried them prisoners to Quebec. The four wives and their young children, for eight or ten days, occupied an out-door cellar of Mr. SANFORD, at this place, till our troops from Pittsford came to their rescue. DAVID STOW died in prison, December 31st, 1778. THOMAS SANFORD, and two others from Vermont, GIFFORD and SMITH, escaped from prison, and after wandering through Maine and New Hampshire, reached their families. The rest of the prisoners, after extreme suffering were discharged in 1782." *

* A handsome marble monument has recently been erected on the site of the out-door cellar, in which the women and children found shelter, in memory of the captivity of these men. The pedestal, base, die and cap, make the height about eight feet. The above is the inscription on one side.

Not far from this monument, is a remarkable slide, on the bank of Otter Creek. It occurred in the fore part of July, 1819. CHARLES WALES, with his family and mother resided in a house on the ground, and in the course of the day, the house

The following, in addition to the above, we have received directly from Mr. STOW. The prisoners, on their arrival at Quebec, were for a time kept on board a prison ship: but were afterwards removed to a prison on land. While there they dug through the walls of the prison and escaped, but were retaken and recommitted, except THOMAS SANFORD and one or two others from Vermont, who, after wandering a long time through the wilderness of New Hampshire and Maine reached their families.* Those who were recommitted dug nearly through the wall a second time, and a large proportion of them, in the spring of 1780, were sent ninety miles down the St. Lawrence, and were there set to work. But CLARK STOW, being then young, was selected by a French lady, and employed by her as a house servant, until he, with the rest, was exchanged and released in 1782. After his release in October he went to Great Barrington, Mass., to which the family had removed, and in March, 1783, they returned to Weybridge.

The following account of the capture of some of the inhabitants of Bridport, their imprisonment and escape, we have abridged from the account of Bridport, given by Mr. THOMPSON, in the first edi-

seemed to tremble and crack, for which the inmates could not account. But in the evening they became alarmed, and left the house, but Mr. WATTS stood still on the ground. Between nine and ten o'clock in the evening, the land, to the extent of nearly two acres, suddenly sank about eighteen feet perpendicularly, the man going down with it was not hurt, but escaped to the bank. The house went down and was shattered to pieces, and the cellar and chimney were never found. The bank of the creek rested on a body of blue clay, which was crushed out by the incumbent soil, and ejected into and across the river, forming a solid and impenetrable dam, which stayed the whole current of the creek, until nine or ten o'clock the next morning. A similar state of less extent took place since, near by, on the farm of BENJAMIN WATTS, and near his house.

* We have the following story from undoubted authority. When Mr. SANFORD was captured he had two horses and a colt which were left behind without any one to take care of them. He returned, as related above, after three years absence, expecting to find his horses dead. But he found them alive, except the colt, which the Indians shot. They had lived on the Beaver Meadows, in the neighborhood, and were found some distance from where SANFORD left them. They had become very wild; but SANFORD had given each of them a name, and when he called them by their names they came to him and were easily taken, they recognizing either their names or their masters' voices.

tion of his Gazetteer. The facts, it is presumed, were obtained from some of the party, as all but one were then alive.

NATHAN SMITH, MARSHALL SMITH and JOHN WARD, who had just been married, who had ventured to remain on their farms, in Bridport, while most of the inhabitants had removed, being together on the 4th day of November, 1778, were taken by a party of British, under Major CARLEROX. He collected in that vicinity thirty-nine prisoners, men and boys. They were put on board a vessel in the lake and carried prisoners to Canada. They reached Quebec December 6, and were kept in prison sixteen months and nineteen days. In the spring of 1780, after two dreary winters, in which several of the party died, the prisoners had liberty to remove thirty leagues down the River St. Lawrence, to work. About forty went, among whom were the two SMITHS and WARD. They landed the first of May, on the south side, where the river was twenty-seven miles wide. In the night of the 13th, eight of the prisoners took a batteau and crossed the river and landed in a perfect wilderness. They here separated into two parties, JUSTUS STURDEVANT, of Weybridge joining the three Bridport men. They traveled by night, and when in the neighborhood of settlements, secreted themselves in the woods by day. They occasionally met Frenchmen, who appeared friendly: but on the 20th, when nearly opposite Quebec, they called on two Frenchmen for aid in crossing a swollen river. One of them stated that he was an officer, and dared not let them pass. He seized his gun and declared them prisoners. The other took up an axe, and both stood against the door to prevent their escape. NATHAN SMITH said to his comrades, "we must go," and seized the man with the gun, and the other prisoners laid hold of the other Frenchman, and they thrust them aside, and all escaped except STURDEVANT, who remained a prisoner until the close of the war. Some days after, four Indians, armed with guns and knives, came upon them, but they sprang into the woods and escaped, and traveled all night until noon the next day, when being not far from Three Rivers, they lay down and slept. But soon each was awakened by an Indian having fast hold of him. They were committed to prison at Three Rivers. Three sides of

the prison were of stone, the other of wood. After being in prison three weeks, they began to cut into the wooden wall with a jack-knife, and in a week had cut through it sufficiently to escape into an adjoining room. Having drawn a week's provisions, they cut up their bed clothes, and let themselves down, so near the window of the room below, that they saw the officers there assembled, and were not more than a rod from the sentinel in his box. Thence they continued to travel by night, and lay by in the day time. To supply themselves with food, they took a lamb in one place and a turkey and other fowls in others. They kept off from the river to avoid the Indians, who they learned were in pursuit of them, and had been offered a bounty for their apprehension. They at length crossed the St. Lawrence and traveled to the River Sorel, and thence through the wilderness, with incredible hardships and suffering, having killed an ox on the way for their sustenance, and at length arrived at the house of ASA HEMENWAY, in Bridport, which alone had survived the desolations of the war. The next day they reached the picket fort at Pittsford. From the time of their escape, ninety miles below Quebec, including their imprisonment, they had not changed their clothes, and had few left to be changed.

The following graphic account of the capture and imprisonment of PETER FERRIS, and his son SQUIRE FERRIS, with some antecedent and accompanying events, is an extract from an article published in the "*Vergennes Vermonter*," February 26, 1845, which was written by PHILIP C. TUCKER, Esq. The facts contained in it were communicated to him by SQUIRE FERRIS in his lifetime.

"In October, 1776, upon the retreat of General ARNOLD up the lake with the American fleet, after the battles fought near Valcour Island, he run the remaining part of his vessels, four gun boats and the galley, "Congress," which ARNOLD himself commanded, into a small bay, which still bears the name of "Arnold's Bay," and the shores of which were upon Mr. FERRIS's farm. Some of the remains of those vessels are yet visible, though they were all partly blown to pieces and sunk when ARNOLD abandoned them. An incident of their destruction, not known to history, is

related by SQUARE FERRIS, a son of Mr. FERRIS, then in his fourteenth year. Lieutenant GOLDSMITH of ARNOLD's galley had been severely wounded in the thigh by a grape shot in the battle near Valcour Island, and lay wholly helpless on the deck, when the orders were given to blow up the vessels. ARNOLD had ordered him to be removed on shore, but by some oversight he was neglected, and was on the deck of the galley when the gunner set fire to the match. He then begged to be thrown overboard, and the gunner, on returning from the galley, told him he would be dead before she blew up. He remained on deck at the explosion, and his body was seen when blown into the air. His remains were taken up and buried on the shore of the lake. To the credit of ARNOLD, he showed the greatest feeling upon the subject, and threatened to run the gunner through on the spot. The British fleet arrived at the mouth of the bay before the explosion of ARNOLD's vessels, and fired upon his men on the shore, and upon the house of Mr. FERRIS, which stood near the shore. Some grape shot and several cannon shot struck Mr. FERRIS's house. Mr. FERRIS and his family returned with ARNOLD to Ticonderoga: from whence they afterwards went, for a short time for safety, to Schaghticoke in the State of New York. All Mr. FERRIS's moveable property at Panten was either taken or destroyed by the British. His cattle, horses and hogs were shot, and his other property carried off. His orchard trees were cut down, his fences burnt, and nothing left undestroyed, but his house and barn."

"After some weeks had elapsed Mr. FERRIS returned to the remains of his property, and endeavored to repair his injuries, so far as possible. He had restored his fences to preserve a crop of winter grain sowed the previous autumn, and had got in his spring crops, when in the month of June following, the army of General BURGOYNE came up the lake. A considerable portion of the army, commanded by General FRASER, landed at Mr. FERRIS's farm, encamped there for the night, and utterly destroyed them all. Two hundred horses were turned into his meadows and grain fields, and they were wholly ruined. Gen. FRASER had the civility to promise indemnity, but that promise yet waits for its fulfilment.

“In the autumn of 1776, Mr. Ferris and his son, Squire Ferris, assisted in the escape of Joseph Everest and Phineas Spalding from the British schooner *Maria* of sixteen guns, then lying at anchor off Arnold's Bay. These two men were Americans, who had been seized in Panton and Addison, and made prisoners for favoring the American cause. Both were taken from the schooner in a dark night and conveyed on shore in a small canoe. Squire Ferris, the son, was also of a small party in the winter of 1776-77, who seized upon two Englishmen, supposed to be spies, near the mouth of Otter Creek, and delivered them into the hands of Gen. St. Clair at Ticonderoga.”

“In the year 1778, the British made a general capture of all the Americans they could reach on the shores of Lake Champlain, who were known to be friendly to the revolutionary cause. In November of that year, Mr. Ferris and his son started upon a deer hunt, on the west side of the lake. When near the mouth of Putnam's Creek, about six miles south of Crown Point, they were seized by a body of British soldiers and Tories, commanded by Colonel Carleton, and carried on board the schooner *Maria*, then lying at Crown Point, near the mouth of Bulwaggy Bay. They were the first prisoners taken in the great attempt of the British to sweep the shores of the lake of those inhabitants, who were friendly to the republican cause. On the same night, detachments from this vessel burnt nearly all the houses along the lake from Bridport to Ferrisburgh, making prisoners of the male inhabitants, and leaving the women and children to suffering and starvation. Mr. Ferris's house and all his other buildings were burnt. Forty persons were brought on board the next day; and within a few days, the number reckoned two hundred and forty-four; part of which were put on board the schooner *Carleton* of sixteen guns, which then lay at the mouth of Great Otter Creek. The forces, which came out in the *Maria* and *Carleton*, were originally destined for an attack upon Rutland, but their object having become known by the escape of an American prisoner, Lieut. Benjamin Everest, that project was abandoned, and they were employed in desolating the country, and stripping it of its inhabitants. The vessels proceeded with their prisoners to St.

Johns: from thence they were marched to Sorel, and it was the intention of the captors to have continued their march down the St. Lawrence to Quebec. At Sorel they crossed the St. Lawrence, and soon after a heavy snow storm came on, which making it impossible to continue the march, trains were seized in all directions, and on these they were driven to Quebec. Here they were confined in prison. Soon after some of them having contrived to escape, they were divided, and about one hundred of them were sent down the river one hundred miles and employed in getting out timber for building barracks. Mr. Ferris and his son were sent among this number in the month of January 1779. In the spring following nine of the prisoners, among whom were Mr. Ferris and his son, seized a batteau in the night, in which they crossed to the east side of the river, where it was fifteen miles wide. On landing they set the batteau adrift, separated into two parties, and made the best of their way up the river. They had brought provisions with them, and avoiding the settlements, and traveling only in the night, the party, with which the two Ferrises remained, arrived opposite the Three Rivers on the fourth day. They crossed in the night, but were discovered and retaken. The remainder of the party did not get so far, having been retaken by a body of Indians in the neighborhood of Quebec. The party of the Ferrises were put into jail at Three Rivers, where they remained eighteen months. During this time they made one attempt to escape, but were discovered and were then placed in a dungeon for seventy-two days. At this time the father and son were separated.

“Squire Ferris, the son, describes the dungeon where he was confined, as an apartment eight feet by ten, and so low that he could not stand up in it, and that the one occupied by his father adjoined it, and was of the same character. The only light was admitted by a small hole about eight by ten inches in size, which was crossed by iron grates. The hole which admitted this light was level with the ground, and the water from the eaves of the jail poured through it into the dungeon, whenever it rained. The straw given them to sleep on was frequently wet in this way, and the confined air, dampness and filth, not to be avoided, made their suffer-

ings of the severest kind. While they were confined here, another place was prepared for them, to which they were transferred after the dungeon suffering of seventy-two days. This place was opposite the guard room, and upon being removed to it, they were told, 'you damned rebels, you can't get out of this.' Here the father and son were again put together in the same room. The place was not however so impregnable as was supposed, for in about six weeks the prisoners made an excavation under the wall, in the night, and made their escape. There were six prisoners in the room at this time. Upon escaping, the parties separated. Mr. Ferris and his son remaining together. They went up the river nearly opposite Sorel, where, two days afterwards, they crossed the St. Lawrence in a canoe, and took to the woods. Their design was to reach New Hampshire, but having lost their way in the woods they struck Missisquoi River, down which they went a few miles, and were again retaken by a British guard, who were with a party getting out timber, and by them were carried again prisoners to St. Johns. They were taken twenty-one days after their escape, and had been nineteen days in the woods, during all which time they had only a four pound loaf of wheat bread, one pound of salt beef and some tea for food. They made their tea in a tin quart cup, and produced fire by a flint and the blade of a jack-knife. For four days before they were retaken, they had nothing for food but tea, and were so weak they could hardly walk. The forces at St. Johns were then commanded by Col. St. Leger, a brutal drunkard, who ordered the prisoners to be ironed together, and put them in a dungeon for fourteen days. At the end of which time, and ironed hand in hand to each other, they were sent to Chamblee, and from there by the rivers Sorel and St. Lawrence to Quebec. At Quebec they were returned to their old prison, in which they remained until June 1782, when they were brought from thence to Whitehall and there exchanged for British prisoners. From their capture to their exchange was three years and eight months.

After the escape of the Ferrises from below Quebec, the prisoners, which remained in prison at Quebec were divided, and a part placed on board a prison ship in the river. Soon afterward, camp fever, as

it was then called, broke out among them, and many of them died. Of the two hundred and forty-four prisoners taken in the neighborhood of Lake Champlain, in November 1778, and carried to Canada in the schooners *Maria* and *Carleton*, only forty-eight were known to have returned. The elder Ferris died in the year 1811, at the age of ninety-two; and of the other forty-seven, Squire Ferris, of Vergennes, his son and fellow prisoner, is supposed to be the only survivor. * Several of these prisoners received pensions from the general Government, but Squire Ferris, their companion in sufferings, though poor and needy, and though an applicant for many years, has never received the bounty of his country." Besides those mentioned above, the following persons, of whose captivity we have no definite information, were taken and carried to Quebec at the same time: Benjamin Kellogg and Joseph Everest, of Addison.

Major Orin Field, of Cornwall, has furnished us with a detailed and interesting account of the capture and imprisonment of the late Benjamin Stevens, of that town, as he received it from Mr. Stevens, a relative, in whose family he resided. He was captured with three others, in a boat on Lake Champlain, near Split Rock, in Charlotte, in May, 1779. Being pursued by the Tories and Indians from the shore, and one of the men, Jonathan Rowley, being killed by a shot from the pursuers, they surrendered. Stevens was then seventeen years old and resided in Rutland County. He not then residing in this County, and therefore not strictly within our province, we give only an abstract of Major Field's narrative. The prisoners were taken to Chamblee, "thrust into a small prison, ironed two together and fed for nine days on no other food than dry peas uncooked. From thence they were taken to Quebec, where Mr. Stevens spent three New Year's days in one room." Twice they made their escape, and after traveling a long time in a destitute and suffering condition, at one time in the dead of winter, and a part of the time living on roots and the bark of trees, until one of the party died, they were retaken and recommitted, and in June, 1782, were exchanged at Whitehall. Mr. Stevens settled in Cornwall in 1792, and died June 16, 1815, aged 53 years.

* SQUIRE FERRIS died at Vergennes, March 17, 1819, aged 87 years.

CHAPTER IX

AGRICULTURE—WHEAT—TRANSITION FROM GRAIN TO STOCK—SHEEP.

THE tract of land west of the mountains, embracing the valleys of Lake Champlain and Otter Creek, when first cleared up, was as celebrated for the production of wheat as Western New York has since been. It was the principal staple among the productions of the County. The following facts will give some idea of the value of this crop. At the close of the last war with Great Britain, the people of the County were almost hopelessly in debt. At the June term of the County Court in 1817, the number of civil causes entered at that term, amounted to more than five hundred, and nearly all for the collection of debts. This pressure of indebtedness was wholly relieved by the crops of wheat raised in the County. The very cold, dry and unproductive season of 1816, had rather increased than diminished the pressure. But the following season of 1817, brought to the relief of the farmers more luxuriant crops, especially of wheat, than any other within our recollection. The excessive drouth of 1816 had prepared the stiffest soils to be thoroughly pulverized by tilling. Large fields were sown: the season, with its gentle and frequent showers and genial sunshine, was most favorable, and the crops singularly abundant. The winter following, the price of wheat in Troy, the principal market, was from two dollars to two dollars and twenty-five cents a bushel; the sleighing was excellent, and was faithfully and industriously improved by the farmers, and the large returns brought great relief to them. The favorable crops which followed had, three years after, in June, 1820, reduced the whole number of new causes entered, to ninety-eight.

But for many years more and more have, in late years, greatly dimin-

ashed the crop and discouraged the farmers. But it is thought the farmers might, without much trouble, raise sufficient for the bread of the County, if they did not choose to direct their attention to more profitable husbandry. Good crops of corn and potatoes, and large crops of beets, carrots and other roots for stock are produced, and the latter are becoming common among the farmers. Except on the hills and rising grounds, the soil is generally too stiff to be advantageously cultivated for these crops. But most farmers have patches of land suitable for raising them in sufficient quantities for their own use: Oats are produced on almost any of the lands, which the farmers have courage to till sufficiently. Rye, barley and buckwheat are also raised to some extent.

But the soil of the County is best adapted to the production of grass and the raising of stock. And no County perhaps, in this or any other State can exhibit a finer or more abundant display of horses, cattle or sheep.* It is the common opinion of farmers, that grass, grown on the clay or marl lands of the County, is much more nutritious, than that which is grown on lighter soils. The editor of the *Albany Cultivator*, in the number for July, 1845, after visiting Addison County, says: "Judging from appearances, it is our opinion, that we have never seen any other land, which is capable of sustaining as much stock to the acre." "Stock of all kinds will and *do* actually fatten on this hay. It is a fact that oxen bought in the fall, in only store condition, if properly sheltered and fed on this hay, become in the spring fit for slaughter, and are sent to Brighton market without any other feeding." For this reason, and because of the failure of the wheat crop, the farmers have, for the last twenty or thirty years, directed their attention to the raising of stock, and especially of sheep. One evil has resulted from this change in the agriculture of the County. The business of grazing requires large farms to satisfy the ambition of the enterprising; and the large profits have enabled the more wealthy to crowd out the smaller land owners and send them to the west. The result has been, that, in several of the principal agricultural towns, the number of the farmers, and of course of the population has considerably diminished.

Instead of going into a detailed history of the transition from the former to the present branch of agriculture; or the cause of the change, we take the liberty to quote several passages from an excellent "address delivered at the annual fair of the Addison County Agricultural Society, October 1st. 1844," by Hon. Silas H. Jenison, late governor of the State, then a resident of Shoreham, but since deceased. He was a practical farmer and well acquainted with the subject.

Referring to the earliest history of agriculture in the County he says: "Among other products of the soil, it was found as favorable to the production of wheat as any other section of the country then open to the agriculturist. Wheat consequently early became the staple product of the county." "Addison County became noted for the quantity and quality of the wheat. The whole force of the farm was directed to the increase of this crop." "During the third period of ten years, extending to 1820, the high price of wheat continued to influence the business of the farmer. Many fields had been by successive cropping, exhausted of their native fertility. Wheat, when sowed to the extent it had been raised for years before, became a less profitable crop. Farmers were awaking to the importance of manuring their old fields." And this conviction, Governor Jenison represents, was a reason that the farmers gave more attention to the raising of cattle for the purpose of providing manure for their wheat crops, and he adds:

"The number and quality of our cattle was increased and improved. With many farmers, the raising of cattle for market became the leading business. The cattle from the County began to be prized in market, and Addison became as noted for the excellence of its cattle, as for its wheat. The excellent grazing qualities of the soil were known and appreciated. Indeed, I have heard it remarked, that the butchers of Brighton could distinguish, by the appearance and feel, the fat cattle from this part of Vermont, from those in market from other places; and that cattle from this part of the State, of the same apparent flesh, had the preference with them, opening better, having a greater quantity of tallow and beef of superior quality and flavor."

"A circumstance, referable to this period, has had great influence on the subsequent pursuits and prosperity of the farming interest of the County. Several individuals, awakened to the wants and capabilities of the country, by privations and embarrassments experienced during the interruption of our commerce with foreign countries before and during the war with Great Britain, did, at great expense, and incurring the penalty of all innovators—being laughed at by their neighbors—introduce into the County the Merino sheep. Among the foremost in this beneficent work, were Rufus Weeks, Daniel Chipman, George Cleveland, and Horatio Seymour."

"During the next period of ten years, bringing us to 1830, the agriculture of the County appears to have been in a transition state." "While some of the farmers had, as a main business of the farm, embarked in rearing cattle, and others in increasing their sheep, many had not abandoned the idea, that wheat might still be a staple product of the County for exportation. They still persisted in the business, notwithstanding the increasing failures of the crop, caused by the exhaustion of the soil, ravages of the Hessian fly, spring killing, blight or rust. But in 1827 or 1828, an enemy to the wheat crops appeared, which baffled all the efforts of the farmer to evade. The insect commonly, but improperly, called the weevil—that name belonging to an insect that preys on the wheat after it is fully ripened and harvested. The insect alluded to is a small, orange-colored maggot, and commits its depredations on the berry, while in the milky state, leaving the head and almost disappearing from the grain, when ripe. By a late writer in the *Cultivator*, it is called the wheat midge. As early as 1829, its ravages had increased so that, in some towns, in the County, scarcely a field escaped."

"When the wheat crop failed, those engaged in the business had to resort to some other branch of farming. The tenacious quality of much of the soil of the County, forbid the cultivation of hoed crops, and the raising of pork, as a substitute. I have before remarked, that the Merino sheep had been spread through the County with wonderful rapidity. Indeed, so rapidly was the char-

acter of the flocks changed, that as early as 1824, in many towns, a considerable flock of native sheep could not be found.

Of the raising of horses, as a department of agriculture, Gov. Jenison has not particularly treated. In what we have further to say, we propose to speak, separately of sheep, horses and cattle. And first of

SHEEP.

In the address from which we have so largely quoted, Governor Jenison says, "The increased prices obtained for wool, and the avidity with which it was sought in market, after the passage of the tariff act of 1828, pointed to that business as more lucrative than any other. A majority of the farmers eagerly engaged in increasing their flocks of sheep. The result has been, that Addison County had in 1840, in proportion either to territory or population, a greater number of sheep, and produced more wool than any other county in the United States. To show the truth of this remark, I refer to facts drawn from the statistical tables accompanying the census returns of 1840, and from other sources. There are nine States which had more than one sheep to each inhabitant, to-wit: Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maine, Kentucky, Connecticut and Ohio, with a portion more than one: New Hampshire and New York had about two and one-fourth, and Vermont had five and three-fourths to each inhabitant. Should territory be regarded, Vermont will be found to have 185, New York 112, and New Hampshire 65 to the square mile."

"Addison County, when compared with the other counties in the State, will be found to have eleven and six-hundredths, Rutland eight and eighty-five hundredths, Grand Isle seven and four hundredths, and Bennington six and nineteen hundredths to each inhabitant. If territory be regarded, Addison has three hundred and seventy-three, Grand Isle three hundred and thirty-four, Rutland two hundred and eighty-three, Windsor two hundred and sixty-one, Orange two hundred and forty and Chittenden two hundred and twenty-one to a square mile." "This array of figures is no idle speculation. They represent facts, which show the immense

stake the farmers of Addison County possess in this branch of husbandry.

If we had the time and the resolution, we should like to draw a similar comparison from the census of 1850. But we have neither. In order, however, to give us good an idea as we are able, of what has been and is the amount of transactions in this department, we have collected from a few of the principal farmers, who are engaged in this business, some facts relating to their operations. The design of them all has been to improve their flocks, as well by breeding as purchasing, that they may be able to supply the market with the best wool and best sheep.

Rollin J. Jones, Esq., of Cornwell, having decided in 1844, to engage in sheep husbandry, proceeded to make careful selections from several of the best pure blood Spanish Merino flocks in New England, in every instance paying for a first choice. In his first purchase, he expended about two thousand dollars. From these have been bred his present flock, and those he has sold of that breed. And his experience in breeding this class of sheep, has more and more confirmed him as to their value. Sales have been made of these in most of the New England, Middle and Western States. In many places, where they have been introduced, they have obtained premiums at State and County fairs over numerous competitors. In 1849, S. B. Rockwell, Esq., of the same place, now residing in Middlebury, became associated with him as a partner.

Messrs. Jones and Rockwell, since their connection, have been eminently successful. In 1852, owing to repeated applications for French Sheep, which had been introduced into the country about six years before, they invested in the purchase of these sheep \$2,200: a part of which included a first choice from the flock of Merrill Bingham. These sheep, they say, were the most perfect of the kind they had ever seen. In 1853, they purchased of Solomon W. Jewett, of Weybridge, one entire shipment of French Sheep, imported by him in April of that year. These purchases, with some subsequently made, cost \$18,000. For several years previous to the spring of 1855, when this information was communicated, their annual sales varied from eight to twelve thousand dollars. For

the eighteen months next preceding, they amounted to \$26,000. They have been in the practice, as many of the principal dealers have been, of taking their sheep for sale to the Western States, especially to Ohio. Their flock on hand, at the date above mentioned, numbered six hundred, one half imported French Merinos, and their descendants. They have a high opinion of the French as well as Spanish Merinos, and think a cross between these breeds would be advantageous.

William R. Sanford, Esq., of Orwell, and Messrs. William S. and Edwin Hammond of Middlebury, have, for several years, been extensively engaged in breeding and dealing in sheep. For our convenience we treat of the operations of these parties together, as they have been, to some extent, connected, and much of our information relating to both, has been obtained from Edwin Hammand, Esq. They both breed the pure Spanish Merinos, descendants of the flock, which Col. Humphreys, who was at the time American Minister to Spain, imported into Connecticut in 1802, or of the flocks, which William Jarvis, Esq., then American Consul in Spain, imported in 1809, 1810 and 1811. These they greatly prefer to any more recently imported, or to any other breed. The usual flock of Mr. Sanford numbers from 250 to 500. Messrs. Hammond's flock, at this time, (1855) numbers 400, including lambs. The sales of both have been uniformly made at home.

In a communication from Mr. Sanford, published in the *Albany Cultivator*, for September 1844, he says: "In 1829, I purchased of Messrs. Grant and Jenison of Walpole, N. H., twenty old full blood Merino ewes, which were purchased by them, when lambs, of Hon. Mr. Jarvis, and warranted full blood. These I have kept distinct and pure, and from them have reared a flock. The ewes yield an average of four pounds and over to the fleece of clean, handsome wool. Messrs. Grant and Jenison, bought these sheep from Mr. Jarvis before the Saxony sheep were introduced into the country, and were of course pure; and since I have had them, I have taken a good deal of pains and trouble to keep them so. I have purchased three superior bucks from Mr. Jarvis, and by using them and my own rearing have kept them pure." Since the above, Mr.

Sanford has made several purchases, to a large amount, of descendants of Col. Humphreys' flock. At the National Exhibition of cattle and horses, at Boston, in October 1855, Mr. Sanford obtained the second premium on Spanish Merino bucks, two years old and over; the first premium on bucks under two years old, and on ewes the two first premiums; and at the Vermont State Fair at Rutland, in September of that year, the first premium on Spanish Merino buck lambs and ewe lambs.

In 1844, Messrs. Hammond, wishing to improve their flock and extend their operations, examined the most important flocks in several New England States, and among others, that belonging to Stephen Atwood, of Watertown, Conn., and selected and purchased from his flock, thirty, and in the next four years several more. These Mr. Atwood had from Col. Humphreys' flock, under such circumstances, that he had satisfactory assurance that they were pure and free from Saxony and other breeds. From these their present flock has been bred.

Mr. Sanford and the Messrs. Hammond, having for several years increased and improved their flocks by breeding "in and in," were desirous of finding other sheep, at least as good as theirs, to cross with them, and Mr. Sanford, in behalf of both parties, went to Europe for the purpose of examining the best flocks in the different countries, and of purchasing the best he could find. He examined the most distinguished in Spain and France. In the former country he found none which he was willing to import; in the latter he purchased twenty French Merinos. He went then into Germany, and, with the advice and aid of the American Consul, at Stuttgart, who had made himself thoroughly informed on the subject, and who accompanied him for a fortnight, he examined the most celebrated flocks in the different States of Germany, and extended his examination as far as Prussia, and there purchased twenty Silesian sheep. These and the French sheep he imported. The French are much larger than the Spanish Merinos, or their descendants, with fleeces in proportion. But Mr. Hammond states, that the wool is not so even, varying in different parts of the body. The Silesian sheep are smaller than the Spanish, but the wool is fine. They did not

regard either of these as an improvement of their flocks and immediately sold them.

Mr. Edwin Hammond thinks the Spanish sheep have improved greatly since their importation into this country, and especially in this County; and that there are better sheep in the County of Addison than in *any other part of the world*. This opinion is founded on his own personal examination of many of the best flocks in this country, and the examination by Mr. Sanford and others of the most celebrated flocks in Europe. He offered, he said, to Mr. Sanford, on his going to Europe, one thousand dollars for a pair of imported sheep, *as good as his*, with a view of crossing them with his present flock: but Mr. Sanford found none such during his tour.

The price of Mr. Hammond's sheep has increased every year. In 1853 their sales amounted to \$7,000; in 1854 they sold two ewes for \$1200, and six others for \$1200. Their bucks that year were sold from \$500 down to \$10—the latter being culls. The whole averaged \$221 each. They have this year (1855,) sheared from two two year old bucks, 22 and 23 pounds; in 1854, from one yearling ewe 12, and from one two year old ewe 13 pounds. The wool was not washed on the sheep, but was clean.

Solomon W. Jewett, Esq., of Weybridge, had for many years been an extensive dealer in grade sheep. In 1843 he began to interest himself in pure blood sheep. He purchased of the descendants of the Merinos imported by Col. Humphreys, Mr. Jarvis and others. Among others he purchased the celebrated buck "Fortune," a descendant of Mr. Jarvis's importation. Mr. Jewett raised from that buck about 200 lambs annually, which he sold from ten to twenty-five dollars, and some as high as \$50 each. He sold several sheep sired by this buck, to Henry S. Randall, Esq., of Cortland Village, N. Y., on which he received the first and second premiums at the State Fair at Poughkeepsie in 1844, and with which, together with Mr. Jewett's buck, he published a challenge for competition, to the whole country.

In 1845, Mr. Jewett imported from England ten Spanish Merinos from the flock of Lord Weston, of Essex, who was the most noted breeder, and had the best flock of Spanish sheep in England.

Six hundred of these sheep, he states having been presented, in 1803, to George III. That king gave Lord Weston the privilege of selecting from the flock, when first landed at Plymouth. These Mr. Jewett thinks were much inferior to the best flocks in this country. From the above, and some other additions, he kept for several years a flock of from 500 to 600 blooded sheep.

In 1851, Mr. Jewett went to Europe, for the purpose of examining and purchasing sheep, and has been twice since for the same purpose. In France he purchased, at fifteen or twenty shipments, seven hundred French Merinos, which he selected from the three best flocks in that country, owned by Messrs. Gilbert, Cugnot and Gaerlin, and a few from the government flock at Rambouillet. These sheep, including expenses cost about \$55,000. He has sold most of these at an average of about \$100, each, the sales amounting to from 15 to 20,000 dollars annually. He sold one pair, a buck and ewe at \$600. He also imported from Spain in 1854, ten sheep, through Mr. Haddock, the American Minister to Portugal; but not being such as he wished to keep, he butchered them.

As to the relative value of the different breeds of sheep, Mr. Jewett's opinion is, that, if the farmer's object is to raise mutton, as well as wool, the French Merinos of the first quality are the best; but for wool only, the Spanish. He has had an opportunity, not only for a personal examination of the best flocks in this country and in Europe, but has examined the published accounts of the weight of the fleeces of Spanish sheep in both countries, and his opinion is that they have greatly improved in this country since their importation. Referring particularly to the flock of the Messrs. Hammond of Middlebury, he expressed the opinion, that the fleeces of their sheep exceed, by one third or more, the fleeces of the native Spanish sheep. Indeed he expresses the decided opinion, that their flock is the *best flock in the world*.

Alonzo L. Bingham and Merrill Bingham, brothers of Cornwall, have been as long and as extensively engaged in the sheep business as any other farmers in the County. They have been not only large breeders but large purchasers; and have sold large numbers for many years in the Western, Middle and Southern States. From

Merrill Bingham personally, we have had no information. From Alonzo L. Bingham, we learn that he has been engaged in the breeding, purchasing and selling sheep for twenty years. He, for many years and until 1846, devoted his attention exclusively to Spanish Merinos, purchased from different importers.

In 1846, he commenced breeding French Merinos, and has imported large numbers through John A. Tainter, Esq., of Hartford, Conn. He now prefers the French sheep, and gives his whole attention to them. When his attention was given to the Spanish, he had a flock of twelve hundred,—although not always so many—and raised annually from four to five hundred. Since he commenced with French sheep, his flock has been less: but he has raised from them annually more than he has ewes,—many of them having twins. At the State fair in the fall of 1855, he received not less than nine premiums on different classes of French sheep.

In the *Vermont Register* of May 31st, 1854, we find an article containing a statement of his sales from September 1st 1853, to May 1st, 1854, from which we collect the following summary. The sheep were French Merinos, and the amount of sales, during the above mentioned eight months, was \$43,302.50. All but the amount of \$7,033, which were sold by an agent at the west, were sold by himself on his farm in Cornwall, to persons living in each of the States of Virginia, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Illinois, New York, Missouri, Connecticut and Vermont. He states also, that his sales of sheep for the last year,* have amounted to between thirty and forty thousand dollars; and that the average price for which his French sheep have been sold, is \$175. Mr. Bingham thinks, that both the Spanish and French sheep are greatly improved by being raised in this County. He says it is admitted, all over the west, that the sheep of Addison County are superior to any others; and that Mr. Tainter, who has been a large importer, says, that he found no such Spanish sheep in Europe, as in this County, and that French sheep are also greatly improved here.

* We wish the reader to bear in mind, that the statistics for these chapters were obtained in 1855 and the chapters written at that time,

As a specimen of the weight of Mr. Bingham's fleeces, at his sheep-shearing in 1852, (we have no later information) we give the following extract from an editorial article in the *Middlebury Register* of May 26th of that year. "We select the following particular instances from those sheared on the first day.

	CARCASS.	FLEECE.
No. 16	107 pounds.	21 pounds.
" 23	91½ "	20 "
" 25	134½ "	23½ "
" 26	89½ "	19½ "
" 33	111½ "	18 "

There were thirty-three sheared on that day, "nearly or quite all yearling ewes."

The agriculturists named, are probably the most extensive dealers in the County. But there are many others, who are largely engaged in breeding and in the improvement of their flocks, in every part of the County; some of whom are more or less also employed in the traffic. But we are not able to detail their operations. The raising of wool takes precedence of all other branches of farming in almost every town. We should be glad to avail ourselves of any means in our power to give a definite statement of the number of sheep, and the annual amount of the crop of wool in the County. We have spoken of the extensive traffic as an historical fact. But it is the breeding and improvement of the flocks, which is the more appropriate business of the agriculturist. The success which has attended this department has induced the traffic, to which we have referred. The speculations and the extravagant prices and profits, which have arisen from this source may to some extent die away, when the country is more generally supplied with the best breeds; but while the County sustains the reputation of raising the best sheep, there will be a market for them for recruiting and improving the flocks in less favored regions of the country.

CHAPTER X.

CATTLE—HORSES.

THE standing of Vermont is generally strikingly shown by the reports of the Boston cattle market : in which the number from this State appears, from week to week, to be nearly double those of any other New England State. Of these, Addison County, we believe, furnishes its full share : and it is represented, that the exhibitions, at the annual County fairs, are not inferior to those of any other County. But the farmers have made fewer efforts in that department, than in those of sheep and horses. We regret that, with all our diligence, we have not been able to ascertain, from those who best know, what efforts have been made and the success which has attended them. At an early day, Thomas Byrd, Esq., of Vergennes, and soon after General Amos W. Barnum, of the same place, introduced into that neighborhood a considerable number of imported English breeds, and the full blood and cross breed of Ayershires, Herefords and Durhams, are quite common in the north part of the County, and, to some extent, prevail in other parts. Wightman Chapman, Esq., then of Weybridge, kept on his farm, for eight or ten years, a very celebrated Ayershire bull, presented to him by John P. Cushing, Esq., of Massachusetts, which was esteemed by many the best bull in the country. The editor of the *Albany Cultivator*, who had examined him, in the number for August 1845, says : “ He is a good bull, has a small clean head, clean limbs, a well shaped body and mellow skin. With the exception of Mr. Archibald’s bull, sent to the Poughkeepsie Show from Montreal, he is decidedly the best bull we have ever seen.” The blood of this animal has been extensively diffused through the cattle in the central parts of the County. Governor Jenison, in the

address, from which we have so largely quoted, in referring to the "effects and general results of the introduction" of foreign breeds, says: "I venture the assertion, that where a favorite individual is found, could the pedigree be traced in most instances, you would not go many removes back before you would run against some one of the imported improved breeds of stock." But the number of full bloods of any of these breeds is quite limited. Cyrus Smith, Esq., of Vergennes, has a celebrated Durham bull, which took the first premium at the State fair in Rutland, and at the Addison County fair at Middlebury this year, (1855) Alonzo L. Bingham of Cornwall, obtained several premiums, at the State fair, on Durham, Hereford and Devon cattle. Horatio Plumley of New Haven, has a full blood Durham cow, from which he has raised several excellent calves, and obtained, at the County fair, the second premium on a bull, which was one of them. W. R. Sanford, Esq., of Orwell, two or three years since, imported two cows and one calf of the Devonshire breed, has bought a few since, and now has eight full bloods, besides two, which he lately sold to the Messrs. Hammond of Middlebury, who from them have raised two calves. Mr. Sanford says, that the beef of this breed sells higher in England than any other. At the National Exhibition in Boston, and at the Vermont State fair, he received several premiums on Devon cattle. At the State fair Messrs. Hammond obtained the first premium on bull calves of this breed.

We are glad to learn that a movement is in contemplation for the improvement of cattle in the County.

HORSES.

The reputation of the County, and the enthusiasm in the breeding of horses, among the farmers, do not suffer much in comparison with those in regard to sheep. Vermont horses have a reputation through the whole country. The original stock consisted of such as were common in the States from which the emigrants came. In some of these States, and especially Connecticut, considerable efforts had been previously made to improve the stock. In the year 1810, Ep. Jones, Esq., introduced and kept in Middlebury, for three or four years, a very beautiful full-blood Arabian horse.

called the "Young Dey of Algiers." His descendents formed a very excellent breed. But the farmers had not then come to appreciate sufficiently the improvement in horses to patronize the high prices, which his services required, and he was removed. Since that, at various times, different stallions have been kept in the County, and among them the "Old Messenger," an imported English horse, and his descendents: from which the stock has been from time to time improved.

The present prevailing stock consists of the different branches of the Morgan horse. These originated from the horse generally known by the name of the "Justin Morgan." This horse was brought, when two years old, by Justin Morgan, from Springfield, Mass., from which place he removed to Randolph, Vermont, in the year 1795, and was kept by him there until March, 1798, when Mr. Morgan died. He was then sold to William Rice, of Woodstock. It does not appear that he was much thought of, or that much care was taken of him, until the excellence of his stock was revealed by his colts. His sire was the "True Britain, or Beautiful Bay," which was raised by Gen. Delancey, commander of the refugee forces on Long Island, and was afterwards kept one season by Justin Morgan. The True Britain was sired by the Traveller, an imported horse also owned by Gen. Delancey. The dam of the Justin Morgan was said to be a descendant of Wild Air, imported also by Gen. Delancey. Mr. Joshua Scott, of Vergennes, who has been acquainted with the Morgan horses from the first of that breed, has a record which traces back the pedigree of the sire and dam of the first Morgan to the Arabian Horse Godolphin, in England, which we do not think of importance enough to insert here. Mr. Scott states that four of the colts of Justin Morgan were kept as stallions, and from them were derived the several branches of that breed; to-wit: "Woodbury," owned and kept by Mr. Woodbury, at Rochester, Vermont, until twelve years old, and afterwards owned successively by Mr. Walker, of Chelsea, and Peter Burbank, of Newbury; "Sherman," owned by Mr. Sherman, of Barre, and afterwards kept by John Bellows, Esq., of Bellows Falls; "Bulrush," raised in Williamstown, and "Revenge," kept

for a while in this State, and afterwards removed. The dams of the Woodbury and Sherman were of English descent. Mr. Scott thinks that three-fourths of the horses now generally known as Morgan, are of the Woodbury branch. Among the colts of the Woodbury was the Gifford. This was the sire of the Green Mountain Morgan, whose dam was also of that breed. This horse is or was owned by Silas Hale, of Barre, Mass., and, we believe, is the most noted of those known as Morgan horses. He was kept two seasons, a few years since, in Middlebury, in this County. The Gifford was also kept by Mr. Scott, in 1851, in the same place. The Hacket Horse, owned and kept by Col. Hacket, in Middlebury, for several years, was sired by the Gifford, from a Woodbury dam. The Flying Morgan, sired by the Hacket horse, and owned by Riley Adams, of Burlington, and distinguished for his speed in trotting, was for some time kept in this County. Woodbury 2d, raised by Mr. Scott, and now eight years old, is still kept by him in Vergennes, and is the only real Woodbury horse kept for mares in the County.

Mr. Weissinger, one of the editors of the Louisville, Ky., *Journal*, who, some ten years ago, made a tour through Vermont, and other eastern States, and took pains to examine the best horses of the general Morgan breed, as quoted by the *Cultivator*, says, "There is no doubt whatever of this, that the breed of the Morgan horse was and is now, in the few instances where it can be found, far the best breed of horses for general service, that was ever in the United States, probably the best in the world; and it is remarkable, that this breed was and is now known by many striking peculiarities, common to nearly every individual."

The old Woodbury Morgan, at twenty years old, was sold for \$1300. Mr. Hale says, "several stallions, begotten by Green Mountain Morgan," of which he was the owner, "have sold as high as \$1500; many have brought prices ranging from \$300 to \$1200; geldings and mares from \$300 to \$800; few less than \$200. The Woodbury and other breeds generally designated as Morgans, are less generally found in this County than in the eastern part of the State; and in New Hampshire and Massachusetts, having been generally sold and removed.

The Black Hawk and his descendants are more generally found here. This horse was sired by the Sherman Morgan, then owned by John Bellows, Esq., of Bellows Falls, and his dam was a large black mare and fast trotter, and is said to have been a half-blood English, raised in New Brunswick. He was raised by Mr. Twombly, of Greenland, N. H. and when four years old, was purchased by Benjamin Thurston of Lowell, Mass. In the year 1844, David Hill, Esq., of Bridport in this County purchased him of Mr. Thurston, and has kept him in that place ever since. Mr. Weissinger, from whom we have before quoted, says of him, "I think he deserves all the praise that has been bestowed on him. He is the finest stallion I ever saw. His legs are flat and broad, shoulders well set back, loin and back bone very strong, length of hip beyond anything I ever saw, as quick in breaking as the bullet from the rifle, head and neck faultless; in motion, mouth open, crest sublime, legs carried finely under him, square and even, and fore legs bending beautifully." We might quote other printed descriptions and recommendations of him, but it does not comport with our design.

Nearly all his colts more or less exhibit his traits. In this County they have become very common. Almost every farmer is anxious to obtain a Black Hawk colt. He has also a high reputation in almost every State. Probably the stock of no horse, ever kept in this country, has been so extensively known and so highly appreciated. Mr. Hill says.—"It is claimed by many of our best judges, that this is a new and permanent variety or breed. By this is meant that they possess peculiar points so uniform and distinct from the immediate ancestors of Black Hawk, that he is justly entitled to be considered the parent or head of a distinct class." He says also. "Black Hawk has sired, I think, fully one hundred colts a year, since I owned him. His colts are now distributed throughout nearly all, if not all, the States of the Union, and several are in Canada. I know of some owned in every State except five southern and south-western States. He says, "this breed of horses have great beauty and symmetry, are high-spirited, yet docile and tractable: are more generally adapted for light and

rapid driving; have great courage and endurance: many are adapted for the farmer's "all work" horses, and few or none for the slow and heavy coach."

Mr. Hill has furnished us the following information of the prices at which some of Black Hawk's colts have been sold. Fifty colts, including a few geldings, and mares, sold in Bridport, have averaged over \$600 each. Eight, sold by himself, consisting of four fillies, one gelding, two three year old and one four year old stallions have averaged over \$700 each. "The following," he says, "are a few of the most noted of this horse's stock, with prices paid or offered for them. Ethan Allen, \$10,000, Red Leg, a gelding, \$1,750, Black Hawk Maid, a mare, \$1,600. The above were all from the same dam, and raised by Joel W. Holcomb, of Ticonderoga, N. Y.. Belle of Saratoga, a mare raised by David Hill, \$4,200; Know Nothing, a gelding, \$5,500; David Hill, now in California, \$10,000; Ticonderoga, \$5,000; Hammitt colt, \$5,000; Sherman Black Hawk, \$5,000; Plato, three years old, \$3,000; Flying Cloud, of Ohio, \$3,000; Rip Van Winkle, two years old, \$2,000."

Black Hawk* is now (1855) twenty-one years old, and there is so great demand for his services, that the price charged for each mare the present season is one hundred dollars.

The Rutland and Burlington Rail Road, from Burlington to Bellows Falls, and passing through the whole length of this County, which was first opened about the first of January, 1850, has advanced the prosperity of agriculture beyond any other influence. It has opened a direct and rapid communication with Boston and New York, which are adequate markets for all the agricultural productions of the County at high prices. The result has been to raise the price of all agricultural products. The price of lands in the vicinity, by the same means, has also been raised from 25 to 50 per cent, and in some cases doubled. And if those who have contributed so liberally for the construction of the road, have lost their whole investment, the farmers have gained as much. One obvious

* Black Hawk has died since the above was written.

benefit, resulting from this influence, has been to raise the amount and quality of the productions of the dairy. There is now no danger of getting any but good butter from any farmer. *

* See Appendix No. 2, for agricultural and other products in the County.

CHAPTER XI.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—MEDICAL SOCIETY.

AN agricultural society, at an early day, was formed in this County, and continued an annual fair for several years; but soon declined for want of legislative encouragement.

The legislature in 1843, passed an act to give encouragement for forming agricultural associations. This act authorizes the formation of agricultural societies in each County, which, when organized, become legal corporations with the usual powers necessary to accomplish their design, and the object of them is declared to be "to encourage and promote agriculture, domestic manufactures and the mechanic arts." The treasurer of the State is authorized to pay annually to each society a share of two thousand dollars, appropriated for the whole State, in proportion to the population of the County, in which it is established, provided that as large a sum shall have been otherwise raised.

Under this act, a society was formed by a convention held at Middlebury, on the 22d of January 1844, by the name of "The Addison County Agricultural Society." By the constitution adopted on that occasion, its object is declared to be "the improvement of agricultural productions, useful domestic animals, domestic manufactures and the mechanic arts, so far as they concern the interest of agriculture." The payment of one dollar is made the condition of annual membership, and the payment of fifteen dollars, the condition of life membership. The officers of the society, are to be a president, two vice presidents, secretary and treasurer. A board of managers is constituted, consisting of the above officers, and one member from each town, where ten members reside; who are authorized "to have a general supervision of the affairs of the society,

fix upon such productions, experiments, discoveries or attainments in agriculture and horticulture, and upon such articles of manufacture, as shall come in competition for premiums at the agricultural fairs, also upon the number and amount of premiums, and the time and place of holding fairs." The officers are to be chosen at an annual meeting, to be held at Middlebury, on the first Wednesday of January, which was afterwards altered to the fourth Wednesday of that month. The first meeting was held on the same day the society was organized, and Hon. Silas H. Jenison was elected president, and Harvey Bell, Esq., secretary.

The first fair was held at the court house and adjoining grounds in Middlebury, October 1st 1844, and an address was delivered by Hon. Silas H. Jenison, which was printed, and from which we have already largely quoted. The fairs in 1845 and 1847, were held at Vergennes; at the former of which an eloquent and interesting address was made by Rev. Dr. Wheeler, President of the University of Vermont. Addresses have also been made at other fairs; of which we have not now sufficient information to give a correct statement. The fair in 1849 was held in Shoreham. All the others have been held in Middlebury. At the annual meeting in January 1852, the constitution was so altered as to authorize the managers to fix on a permanent location for the annual exhibitions: and they, at a meeting in June of that year, fixed on Middlebury for that purpose, provided the citizens should provide suitable grounds and fixtures, and pay one hundred dollars annually toward the expenses. Since that time the fairs have been held on grounds leased from Gen. Nash, in the north part of the village, where temporary fixtures were erected. These grounds have now been sold and appropriated to another use.

Several gentlemen in the County have recently purchased a tract of twenty-two acres, south of the court house, which formerly belonged to Jonathan Wainwright, including the barns and extensive sheds, erected for keeping and preparing for market his horses, when he was largely engaged in that traffic. Here they design to erect permanent fixtures upon a large scale for the accommodation of the annual exhibitions. Arrangements are in progress to raise

the requisite funds to transfer the title to the corporation; but, until this is accomplished the society will pay rent to the proprietors.

Hitherto the fairs have fully met the expectations of the most sanguine. Many of them have been interesting and extensive, and, we think, have produced a favorable effect in stimulating efforts for improvement, and securing advancement in all the departments within the province of the society. There have been exhibited an extensive variety of the products of agriculture, horticulture, and of domestic and other manufactures; and very often of numerous and fine specimens of painting, drawing and various kinds of ornamental work by native artists. After what we have said of the stock department of agriculture, none will be disappointed when we say, that the exhibitions have been large and splendid in cattle, horses and sheep. Whatever others may say, the citizens of Addison County will not shrink from a comparison with the exhibitions of stock of any other County in the State, or perhaps of any other State.

The following have been the presidents and secretaries of the society.

FROM	PRESIDENT.	TO	FROM	SECRETARIES.	TO
1844	Silas H. Jenison,	1848.	1844	Harvey Bell,	1847.
1848	Elias Bottum,	1850.	1847	E. W. Blaisdell, Jr.	1850.
1850	Charles L. Smith,	1852.	1850	Joseph H. Barreitt,	1857.
1852	Harvey Munsill,	1854.	1857	Justus Cobb, still in office.	
1854	Edwin Hammond,	1857.			
1857	William R. Sanford, still in office.				

ADDISON COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The legislature, at their session in 1813, passed an act authorizing several physicians in each county by name, to form themselves into County Medical Societies, by the name of the Medical Society of the County in which they should be formed. And the societies were severally to be corporations with the usual powers, necessary for the purposes, for which they were designed; and were authorized to adopt and alter a corporate seal. They were to have power to assess taxes on the members, "for the purpose of procuring a library and suitable apparatus, and for other uses," provided the

tax shall not exceed three dollars. The officers authorized by the law are a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, librarian and three or more censors, to hold their offices for one year, or until others are chosen. The several societies were required to "hold semi-annual meetings in the shire town in each county, at the time of the sitting of the County Court, for the purpose of establishing and regulating the libraries of said society, receiving and communicating medical information, examining students," and any other proper business. The act requires that students examined and approved by the censors "possess a good moral character," and "have pursued the studies of physic or surgery at least three years;" and, being approved, shall receive a diploma from the president, which shall entitle him to all the privileges of a member of the society. The same act authorizes the formation of a State Society, to consist of three delegates from each County Society.

The physicians named in the act for this County are William Bass, Edward Tudor, Ebenezer Huntington, Asher Nichols, John Wilson, Nicanor Needham, Frederic Ford Jr., John Lyman, Frederic Ford, William Guile, John Willard, Luther E. Hall, James Day, Dan Stone, Levi Warner, David McCollister, Martin Gay, Zenas Shaw, Josiah W. Hale.

In pursuance of this act the physicians named met at Middlebury on the 15th of December, 1813, and organized the Addison County Medical Society, and elected the following officers: Ebenezer Huntington, of Vergennes, President, William Bass, of Middlebury, Vice President, Luther E. Hall, Vergennes, Secretary, Frederic Ford, Cornwall, Treasurer, William Bass, Librarian, Dan Stone, Edward Tudor, Frederic Ford, Jr., John Lyman and David McCollister, Censors. Luther E. Hall and Dan Stone were appointed a Committee to report a code of by-laws. It was further voted, that future meetings shall be held at Dr. William Bass's, in Middlebury, and that the President deliver an inaugural address, before the society, at their next meeting. This meeting was adjourned to the 19th of January, 1814. At this meeting the President delivered his inaugural address, and a code of by-laws, reported by the committee, was adopted. William Bass and Luther E.

Hall and Dan Stone were also appointed a committee, to "present to the Society a device for a seal and form of diploma." At the first meeting a tax of one dollar was assessed, which at the next was increased to one dollar and fifty cents; and at both these meetings, candidates were examined and licensed.

The society thus organized continued in full life and vigor until about the year 1824. Dissertations and addresses on medical subjects, under appointment for that purpose, were read; difficult and uncommon cases of disease and their treatment reported by the members; new members admitted, candidates examined and approved by the censors received diplomas, taxes were assessed, a library collected and delegates regularly elected to the State Society. In 1822, the State Society commenced a series of resolutions proposing measures for the regulation of the County Societies: One requiring the County Societies to make an annual report of the "diseases prevalent in the County during the year," "under a penalty of five dollars fine on failure;" one prescribing new qualifications for the admission of candidates for license; and another affixing a penalty of five dollars for a neglect of the County Society to "send their proceedings to the State Society, annually, as required by law;" also a regulation respecting the dismissal or withdrawing of members from the County Societies.

These proceedings were not received with much favor by this County Society; and at the annual meeting in December, 1824, a committee was appointed to take into consideration the proceedings of the State Society, and "report some plan of management for our Library." At an adjourned meeting the committee reported, recommending a dissolution of their connection with the State Society; and another committee was appointed to confer with the other County Societies on the subject. At a meeting in June, 1825, a resolution was passed instructing the delegates to request the State Society to "petition the Legislature so to alter the act of incorporation as to render the County Societies independent of the State Society."

The result of the proceedings, so far as appears of record, was that, at a meeting in May, 1826, a resolution was adopted to "put

up our library at auction to the members of this Society:" and the sale took place in June following. In the meantime, several members had withdrawn with the consent of the Society, few attended the meetings, and the measure above mentioned was adopted, we suppose, to close the existence of the Society. The last meeting of which there is any record, was in October 1826; when the whole business related to closing the financial affairs of the Society. The organization of subsequent societies seem to have been regarded as a revival of this society, formed under the act of 1813, although at each of these organizations, new constitutions were adopted.

Dr. Ebenezer Huntington, the first president, was continued in that office until 1823, when Dr. Luther E. Hall was appointed, and continued president until 1826, when Dr. William Bass was appointed the last president. Dr. Luther E. Hall was secretary from 1813 to 1820, when Dr. Thomas P. Matthews was appointed and continued to the close.

On the 24th of December, 1835, a County Medical Society was organized and adopted a Constitution, and on the same day held its first meeting. Dr. Jonathan A. Allen was chosen President, Dan C. Stone and E. D. Warner, Vice Presidents, Ralph Gowdey, Secretary, and Atherton Hall, Treasurer. About six months after, in June, 1836, another meeting was held, and this closes its written history.

"The Addison County Medical Society" was re-organized by a convention held at Vergennes on the 30th day of June 1842, adjourned from a preliminary meeting held at Middlebury two weeks before. A new Constitution was then formed, by which the object of the organization is declared to be, "to promote a knowledge of medical and surgical science, and a friendly intercourse among the members of the faculty." The officers of the Society are "a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, and three Censors, together with the President and Vice President, who shall be *ex-officio* Censors," and they are elected annually. "Any regular practitioner of medicine, a graduate of any legally authorized medical institution, who resides within the State, and shall sign the constitution and by-laws, and conform to the objects designed, may be a member of the society: and any person, who sus-

tains a good moral character may become a member, who shall have studied the science of medicine and surgery three years under the direction of a regular practitioner, and attended at least one course of medical lectures, in some legally established institution, and has passed an examination by the censors, and by them recommended." Any person having passed such satisfactory examination "may become a member by signing the constitution and by-laws, and receive, if he wish, a diploma by paying five dollars." According to the by-laws, meetings are to be held "at Middlebury semi-annually, on Thursday of the first week of the County Court." The first meeting was held on the day on which the Constitution was adopted, and Dr. J. A. Allen of Middlebury, was chosen President, Dr. Dan C. Stone of Vergennes, Vice President, and Dr. David C. Goodale of Addison, Secretary.

Since the last organization in 1842, the society has been in efficient and successful operation. The meetings have generally been regularly held and attended; and we judge many of them most interesting and profitable. A member at one meeting was often appointed to make an address or read an essay on some important subject at the next, and at all the meetings it was made the duty of each member to report such interesting and difficult cases of disease as had occurred in his practice, and each case was discussed by the other members of the society. It was one of the rules of the society that each person appointed president should make an address at the close of the term for which he was elected. At the annual meeting in June, 1847, Dr. Jonathan A. Allen, having officiated as President the previous year, read an address which was published. From this we make a quotation, principally to show how he regarded the influence of the organization. He says, "It is now five years since the Addison County Society was organized in its present form. During this period twenty meetings have been held, generally well sustained by the attendance of the members. Many facts, highly interesting to the profession, and consequently useful to the public, have been presented. Much valuable information has been elicited by our discussions, and we have every reason to believe that not a member has failed of adding

to his general stock of practical knowledge. In addition to these advantages, valuable acquaintances have been formed, generous, elevated and kind professional feeling promoted. Many of these endearments will reciprocally remain among our members until the closing period of their existence. Jealousy, suspicion and want of confidence have been almost entirely removed from our ranks. Our members meet as friends. Consultations now, in lieu of being objects of bickering, are generally desired, and usually, by the mutual and kind expression of opinion, result beneficially to the sick." The whole community would feel safer if such an influence should prevail generally among the doctors.

At a subsequent meeting in February, 1848. the death of Dr. Allen was announced by Dr. Russel, who stated that "the principal object of the meeting was to adopt measures suitable to the occasion" of his death. "The President, Dr. Bradford of Vergennes, read a short but expressive paper concerning his life and death;" and appropriate and commendatory resolutions were adopted. The Society also appointed Dr. S. P. Lathrop, of Middlebury, to prepare a biographical sketch, which was afterwards ordered to be published in the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

The following have been the Presidents and Secretaries of the Society.

FROM	PRESIDENT.	TO	FROM	SECRETARIES.	TO
1842	Jona'n A. Allen, Middlebury,	1844.	1842	David Goodale, Addison,	1844.
1844	Joel Rice, Bridport,	1845.	1844	S. Pearl Lathrop, Middlebury,	1846.
1845	Dan C. Stone, Vergennes,	1846.	1846	W. P. Russel, " "	1847.
1846	Jonathan A. Allen,	1847.	1847	Charles L. Allen, still in office.	
1847	A. Bradford, Vergennes,	1848.	Dr. Allen is also Treasurer and Librarian.		
1848	E. D. Warner, New Haven,	1850			
1850	Earl Cushman, Orwell,	1856.			
1856	E. D. Warner, still in office.				

CHAPTER XII.

POPULATION—CHARACTER—ADVANTAGES—DANGERS.

The population of Addison County does not materially differ from that of the other Counties in this State, and other New England States. The whole exhibits the influence of the spirit of emigration and colonization, which has prevailed and increased since the first settlement of the country. The character of the whole population of the country has been modified and, in many respects, we think, improved by this disposition, especially in its spirit of enterprise and individuality. An individual, who has courage to leave the place of his birth, and remove three hundred or a thousand miles to the outskirts of civilization to better his condition, learns that there are other places and people besides those he has left behind, and perhaps equal or superior to them. His views are enlarged, and his inquiries are no longer confined to the limited sphere of his early home, and he begins to think there may be still other regions beyond and elsewhere. If he has energy to remove once, he has still more to remove again, when profit or pleasure tempt him. He learns also that there are other countries beyond the oceans, which encircle him, and he looks to them as fields for indulging his thirst for speculation or his curiosity. Wherever he locates himself, he finds other men and other customs and manners and ideas which are new to him, and which he studies, and thus improves his own, and shakes off his provincial habits and prejudices.

Added to this cause, which to some extent is common to all the States, the early settlers of Vermont experienced a long course of discipline in the hardships and self-denial and energy required for their hard contested controversy, in defending themselves and their property against the oppressive claims of exterior powers, and especially in the contest for their separate independence.

Although we cannot boast of large numbers of learned men, like some other States, more favorably situated, we do not shrink from a comparison of the mass of our population, for general intelligence and practical energy, with any other. Not a few intelligent men, who have long resided in other New England States and elsewhere, have expressed to the writer of this sketch the conviction, that in no State is the population of the same classes, and especially the farmers, superior, if equal, to that of Vermont. No State, we believe, has sent out more efficient, practical and useful emigrants to people the "new countries." Vermont is an inland State, and agriculture is the pursuit of the great body of its inhabitants; and she has no foreign commerce to build up large cities, where great wealth is accumulated, and learned men congregate.

Among the most important influences, which operate in modifying the character of our population, are our liberal institutions, placing, as they do, every man in the dignity and responsibility of a man. And paramount to all others perhaps is that of town corporations, which are common and almost peculiar to New England. They are not only pure democracies, but they are schools, in which the principles of democracy are taught; where all meet on a common platform, with equal rights and powers, not only as voters, but as candidates for office. So numerous and extensive are the legislative and administrative powers within their limits, that all have an opportunity to become acquainted with our laws and institutions, acquire habits of public business and qualify themselves for higher political trusts.

Our common schools and seminaries of learning for the instruction of all classes, and our churches of various denominations, where all may meet for public worship and for instruction in their religions, social and civil duties, are means of spreading general intelligence and virtue through the community. Besides these every family is more or less supplied with books and periodicals, which keep them informed of the passing events, and remind them of their duties to their country and the world. The writer of this sketch has been as long and as advantageously situated as any one to ascertain the ability of all classes of men in this County to write, and he has no

recollection of more than one or two native Americans, residing in the County, who could not write his own signature ; and these were brought up in regions remote from schools. The twenty-five native Americans, who are reported in the census of 1850, in this County, as being unable to read or write. were probably similarly situated in the early settlement of the country.

If the population of Addison County is distinguished from that of any other County, it is occasioned by the influence of Middlebury College situated among them. This influence is not confined exclusively to this County ; but no person, who has been long acquainted with the history of that institution, has failed to observe its influence upon the intelligence of the community in its neighborhood, and in raising the standard of education in the subordinate institutions. Few towns, if any, in the country, have afforded a larger number of young men for a collegiate education, in proportion to their population, than many of the towns in Addison County.

It may be mentioned as an evidence of the peaceable and orderly character, as well as prosperity of the inhabitants, that courts of justice have less business in this County, in proportion to its population, than in any other County. No person has ever been convicted of a capital offence in the County. Four have been tried for murder, one in 1815 and one in 1825 ; but both were convicted of only manslaughter. Another was since tried twice, but the jury failed in both cases to agree on a verdict, and he was discharged : and the other was acquitted on account of insanity.

From the foregoing sketches, it will be seen, that the County of Addison has sufficient resources for wealth and material prosperity, and that its citizens have sufficient intelligence and enterprise, in due time to develope them. It will be seen also, that they have the means of intellectual, moral and religious improvement. And we may well congratulate ourselves that we live in an agricultural district, where there is a general social equality ; where there are few so rich as to excite the envy and ill-will of their neighbors, or to be free from the necessity of some active occupation, or so poor as to need charity. We have no large cities with their accumulated masses of wealth, poverty and crime. We have no such wealth to

foster extravagance, luxury and a factitious aristocracy, with its arbitrary conventional ceremonies, as in large cities sets at naught the equality, simple manners and sober verities of the country. We are not like them, beset on every hand by temptations to dissipation and debauchery, and we have no such masses of corruption to spread a moral pestilence through the atmosphere. We have no such large collections of the refuse population of Europe—its paupers and criminals—broke loose from the restraints of government and law at home, that they may riot here in their imaginary freedom from all restraints; who nightly disturb the peace of the community with riots and quarrels and murders; and who are ready at the call of designing politicians, to control our elections. The institution of the family, so important in the country, for its restraints and the cultivation of the social affections, is to a great extent obliterated in some of the large towns. There hundreds of children have no home but in the streets, and no associates but their fellows in the same condition. The crowded population everywhere, and the artificial conventionalisms of the more wealthy households forbid the salutary restraints and separate and undisturbed intercourse of the family circle. And thus the young grow up with the feeling that they belong rather to the great public than to the family in which they were born. These evils are not to be charged to the inhabitants generally of larger towns, but are incident to, and inseparable from, their position. No more moral, pious and philanthropic men are anywhere to be found. And yet the evils exist.

We ought to bear in mind, that there is danger from this source to the whole country, and that a serious responsibility rests upon the people in the rural and agricultural districts, like the County of Addison, in relation to them. The influence of large commercial towns is gradually extending itself over the country for evil, as well as for good. The evil influence may, and should be counteracted by an influence from the country. A large proportion of the teachers and influential professional and business men, and of the annual increase of the population, in the large towns, are educated in, and are emigrants from the country. There is besides a constant

intercourse and mutual influence going on between the city and country. From the distinguished advantages enjoyed by the rural districts, it is, we think, their province to save the rest of the country. Our free institutions, as every one understands, will depend on the intelligence and virtue of the people. It is therefore the first duty of all patriotic citizens of Addison County, as well for their own safety as for that of the country, to encourage and support all needed educational and religious institutions in efficient operation.

APPENDIX.

NO. 1.—CHIEF JUDGES OF THE COUNTY COURT UNTIL THE NEW ORGANIZATION OF THE JUDICIARY IN 1825.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Appointed.</i>	<i>Left.</i>	<i>Years in Office.</i>
John Strong.....	Addison.	1785	1801	16
Joel Linsley,.....	Cornwall,	1801	1807	6
Henry Olin,.....	Leicester,	1807	1808	1
Joel Linsley.....	Cornwall,	1808	1810	2
Henry Olin,.....	Leicester.	1810	1824	14
Bonastus Wooster,.....	Middlebury.	1824	1825	1

ASSISTANT JUDGES OF COUNTY COURT.

Gamaliel Painter,.....	Middlebury,	1785	1786	1
Josiah Allen,.....	Colchester,	1785	1786	1
William Brush,.....	Vergennes,	1786	1787	1
Abel Thompson,.....	Panton,	1786	1787	1
Willard Hall,.....	Cornwall,	1786	1789	3
Samuel Lane,.....	"	1786	1787	1
Gamaliel Painter,.....	Middlebury,	1787	1795	8
Abel Thompson,.....	Panton,	1789	1801	12
Joel Linsley,.....	Cornwall,	1795	1801	6
Abraham Dibble,.....	Vergennes,	1801	1805	4
Henry Olin,.....	Leicester,	1801	1807	6
Samuel Strong,.....	Vergennes,	1805	1808	3
Charles Rich,.....	Shoreham,	1807	1813	6
Henry Olin,.....	Leicester,	1808	1810	2
Mathew Phelps, Jun.,.....	New Haven,	1810	1812	2
Samuel Shepard,.....	Panton,	1812	1813	1
Samuel Strong,.....	Vergennes,	1813	1815	2
Ezra Hoyt,.....	New Haven,	1813	1818	5
Charles Rich,.....	Shoreham,	1815	1816	1
William Slade, Jr.,.....	Middlebury,	1816	1822	6
Stephen Haight, Jr.,.....	Monkton.	1818	1823	5
Elisha Bascom,.....	Shoreham,	1822	1824	2
Ezra Hoyt,.....	New Haven,	1823	1824	1
John S. Larabee,.....	Shoreham.	1824	1825	1

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Appointed.</i>	<i>Left.</i>	<i>Years in Office</i>
Daniel Collins,	Monkton,	1824	1825	1
Dorastus Wooster,	Middlebury,	1825	1831	6
Eben W. Judd,	"	1825	1829	4
Silas H. Jenison,	Shoreham,	1829	1835	6
William Myrick,	Bridport,	1831	1833	2
Samuel H. Holley,	Bristol,	1833	1842	9
Calvin Solace,	Bridport,	1835	1838	3
Davis Rich,	Shoreham,	1838	1842	4
Calvin Solace,	Bridport,	1842	1844	2
Fordyce Huntington,	Vergennes,	1842	1844	2
Dorastus Wooster,	Middlebury,	1844	1846	2
*Jesse Grandey,	Panton,	1844	1845	6 mo.
*Ville Laurence,	Vergennes.	1845	1847	2
George Chipman,	Ripton,	1846	1849	3
Elias Bottum,	New Haven,	1847	1849	2
Calvin G. Tilden,	Cornwall,	1849	1851	2
Nathan E. Keese,	Ferrisburgh,	1849	1851	2
Joseph Haywood,	Panton,	1851	1854	3
Roswell Bottum, Jr.,	Orwell,	1851	1854	3
†Dorastus Wooster,	Middlebury,	1854	Jan. 1855	2 mo.
Erastus S. Hinman,	New Haven,	1854	1856	2
‡Samuel Swift,	Middlebury,	1855	1857	2
John W. Strong,	Addison,	1856	1858	2
M. W. C. Wright,	Shoreham,	1857	1855	
Harison O. Smith,	Monkton,	1858	1855	

COUNTY CLERKS.

Samuel Chipman, Jr.,	Vergennes,	1785	1786	1
Roswell Hopkins,	"	1786	1803	17
Darius Matthews,	Middlebury,	1803	1808	5
Martin Post,	"	1808	1810	2
John S. Larabee,	"	1810	1814	4
Samuel Swift,	"	1814	1846	32
George S. Swift,	"	1846	1855	9
John W. Stewart,	"	1855	1855	6 mo
Dugald Stewart,	"	1855		

STATE'S ATTORNEYS.

Seth Storrs,	Addison,	1787	1797	10
Daniel Chipman,	Middlebury,	1797	1804	7

* Judge GRANDY died before June 1st, 1845; VILLE LAWRENCE was appointed by the Governor in his place.

† Died January 1853.

‡ Appointed in place of D. Wooster

Name.	Place.	Appointed.	Died.	Years in Office
Loyal Case,.....	Middlebury,	1804	1808	4
David Edmond,.....	Vergennes,	1808	1810	2
Horatio Seymour,.....	Middlebury,	1810	1813	3
David Elmon L.,.....	Vergennes,	1813	1815	2
Horatio Seymour,.....	Middlebury,	1815	1819	4
*David Edmond,.....	Vergennes,	1819	1824	5
†Noah Hawley,.....	"	1824	1824	5 mo
Enoch D. Woodbridge,....	"	1824	1827	3
George Chipman,.....	Middlebury,	1827	1830	3
William Slade,.....	"	1829	1831	1
Ebenezer N. Briggs,.....	Salisbury,	1821	1839	8
Ozias Seymour,.....	Middlebury,	1839	1845	6
George W. Grandey,.....	Vergennes,	1845	1846	3
John Prout,.....	Salisbury,	1848	1851	3
John W. Stewart,.....	Middlebury,	1851	1854	3
Frederic E. Woodbridge,..	Vergennes,	1854		

SHERIFFS.

Noah Chittenden,.....	Jericho,	1785	1786	1
Garniel Painter,.....	Middlebury,	1786	1787	1
Samuel Strong,.....	Vergennes,	1787	1789	2
John Chipman,.....	Middlebury,	1789	1801	12
William Slade,.....	Cornwall,	1801	1811	10
Jonathan Hoyt, Jun.,....	New Haven,	1811	1812	1
John Willard,.....	Middlebury,	1812	1813	1
Samuel Matoonks,.....	"	1813	1815	2
Jonathan Hoyt, Jun.,....	New Haven,	1815	1819	4
Abel Tomlinson,.....	Vergennes,	1819	1824	5
Stephen Haight,.....	Monkton,	1824	1828	4
Seymour Sellick,.....	Middlebury,	1828	1831	3
Marshall S. Doty,.....	Addison,	1831	1833	2
Azariah Rood,.....	Middlebury,	1833	1835	2
William B. Martin,.....	"	1835	1836	1
Azariah Rood,.....	"	1836	1837	1
Ethan Smith,.....	Monkton,	1837	1839	2
William B. Martin,.....	Middlebury,	1839	1840	1
Adnah Smith,.....	"	1840	1842	2
Gaius A. Collamer,.....	Bristol,	1842	1844	2
David S. Church,.....	Middlebury,	1844	Jan. 1859	14
‡William Joslin,.....	Vergennes,	Jan. 1859		

* Died in spring of 1824.

† Appointed by Court in place of D. Edmond.

‡ Appointed by the Governor on the death of D. S. Church.

HIGH BAILIFFS.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Appointed.</i>	<i>Left.</i>	<i>Years.</i>
Samuel Mattocks,	Middlebury,	1798	1806	8
John Warren,	"	1806	1808	2
Ardenas Nixon,	"	1808	1810	2
Moses Leonard,	"	1810	1812	2
James Jewett,	"	1812	1813	1
Benjamin Clark,	Weybridge,	1813	1814	1
Flickin Weeks,	Salisbury,	1814	1816	2
Wightman Chapman,	Weybridge,	1816	1826	10
Nathaniel Foster,	Middlebury,	1826	1829	3
John Howden,	Bristol,	1829	1830	1
Marshall S. Doty,	Addison,	1830	1831	1
Myron Bushnell,	Starksboro,	1831	1833	2
Milo Winslow,	Middlebury,	1833	1835	2
Gaius A. Collamer,	Bristol,	1835	1837	2
Wightman Chapman,	Weybridge,	1837	1839	2
Harry Goodrich,	Middlebury,	1839	1840	1
Asa Chapman,	"	1840	1849	9
George C. Chapman,	"	1849	1850	1
William Joslin,	Vergennes,	1850	1853	3
G. A. Collamer,	Bristol,	1853		

JUDGES OF PROBATE—District of Addison.

John Strong,	Addison,	1887	1801	14
Darius Mathews,	Cornwall,	1801	1819	18
Samuel Swift,	Middlebury,	1819	1841	22
Silas H. Jenison,	Shoreham,	1842	1847	6
Horatio Seymour,	Middlebury,	1847	1855	8
Calvin G. Tilden,	Cornwall,	1855		

DISTRICT OF NEW HAVEN.

Ezra Hoyt,	New Haven,	1824	1829	5
Noah Hawley,	Vergennes,	1829	1831	2
Jesse Grandey,	Panton,	1831	1833	2
Adin Hall,	New Haven,	1833	1835	2
Harvey Munsil,	Bristol,	1835		

NO. 2.

The following statement of "Agriculture, Farms and Implements, Stock, products," &c., is taken from the census of 1850.

Addison County. Acres of improved land 243,312, unimproved 115,287. Cash value of farms \$7,799,257. Value of farming implements \$256,270. Horses 5,921. Asses and Mules 1. Milch Cows 10,691. Working Oxen 2,815. Other Cattle 13,248. Sheep 188,154. Swine 5,822. Value of Live Stock \$1,289,608. Value of animals slaughtered \$176,856. Wheat, bushels of 103,44. Bushels of Rye 29,096. Bushels of Indian Corn 175,478. Bushels of Oats 211,385. Pounds of Wool 622,594. Peas and Beans 26,355. Bushels of Irish Potatoes 318,421. Of Barley, 149. Of Buckwheat 15,659. Value of Orchard products \$41,636. Gallons of Wine 114. Pounds of Butter, 876,771. Cheese 817,149. Tons of Hay 88,793. Bushels of Clover Seed 5. Other Grass Seed 1,589. Pounds of Hops 5,962. Of Flax 1,232. Bushels of Flax Seed 51. Pounds of Silk Cocoons 76. Of Maple Sugar 205,263. Gallons of Molasses 659. Beeswax and Honey pounds of 40,654. Value of Home Manufactures 879,648.

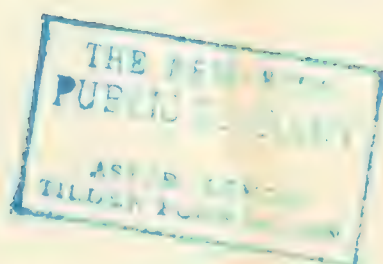
NO. 3.

The following table shows the population of the several towns in the County of Addison, at each United States Census, since Vermont was admitted into the Union.

	1791	1800	1810	1820	1830	1840	1850
Addison,	491	734	1109	1210	1356	1229	1279
Avery's Gore,			13	29		73	
Bridport,	449	1124	1520	1511	1774	1480	1393
Bristol,	211	665	1179	1051	1274	1233	1344
Cornwall,	826	1163	1279	1120	1264	1163	1155
Ferrisburgh,	481	956	1647	1581	1822	1755	2075
Goshen,		4	86	239	555	621	406
Granville,	191	185	324	323	433	545	603
Hancock,	55	149	311	442	472	455	439
Leicester,	343	522	699	543	634	692	506
Lincoln,		97	255	278	629	770	1057
Mill Hebury,	295	1263	2133	2535	3468	3162	3517
Monkton,	459	889	1248	1152	1244	1249	1246
New Haven,	713	1135	1688	1566	1831	1703	1663
Orwell,	778	1286	1849	1730	1598	1504	1470
Putnam,	210		229	543	605	679	579
Richford,			15	22	273	257	507
Shelburne,	9	611	709	2	597	332	1027
Shoreham,	721	1447	2933	1881	2137	1675	1601
Starksboro,	40	359	726	914	1342	1263	1400
Windsor,	201		325	317	999	1917	1973
Windsor,		27	114	264	391	203	270
Weybridge,	175	502	750	714	850	797	804
Windsor,	150	404	565	609	653	660	629
	<u>7,267</u>	<u>14,745</u>	<u>21,643</u>	<u>21,879</u>	<u>26,593</u>	<u>25,974</u>	<u>26,549</u>

CENSUS OF 1850.

	WHITES.			FREE COLORED.			Total Ag' etc.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Andover,	650	619	1270				1270
Bridport,	735	613	1348				1348
Bristol,	643	641	1284	16	16	32	1316
Canterbury,	573	577	1150	2		2	1152
East-Longford,	1915	1823	3738	2	4	6	3744
Greenwich,	241	225	466				466
Greenville,	311	280	591				591
Haverhill,	213	194	407				407
Leicester,	236	305	541	1		1	542
Lincoln,	561	415	976	3	2	5	981
Middlebury,	1700	1769	3469	3	10	13	3482
Monkton,	609	646	1255				1255
New Haven,	825	1002	1827	5	1	6	1833
Orwell,	727	742	1469		1	1	1470
Panton,	287	267	554	3	2	5	559
Ripton,	203	264	467				467
Salisbury,	526	501	1027				1027
Shoreham,	822	779	1601				1601
Starksboro,	725	675	1400				1400
Vergennes,	653	694	1347	13	18	31	1378
Waltham,	141	129	270				270
Weybridge,	399	405	804				804
Whiting,	311	317	628	1		1	629
	13,398	13,043	26,441	54	34	88	26,529





HISTORY

OF THE

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY,

IN THE

COUNTY OF ADDISON, VERMONT:

WRITTEN AT THE REQUEST OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MIDDLEBURY,

BY SAMUEL SWIFT.

MIDDLEBURY :
A. H. COPELAND.
1859.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1859, by

A. H. COPELAND,

In the Clerk's office of the District Court of the United States for the District of
Vermont.

PREFACE.

WHEN I was persuaded, against my conviction and inclination, to collect materials and compile a history of Middlebury from its first settlement, I adopted the plan to make it as minute and complete, as the accessible materials would allow,—from an apprehension, that facts, which can now be collected, would be beyond the reach of any future historian. I designed to state, as far as I could, the division of the territory into lots among the proprietors, who were the original settlers, and when and where,—that is, on what lots,—they become such. The best sources of information had already disappeared, in the deaths of the first settlers; and their descendants and successors were rapidly passing away. As one of their successors, I became a resident here so early, that I was personally acquainted with nearly all the first settlers, and knew where they settled. Although I had no disposition to collect the necessary facts for a history, my personal knowledge may have aided me more in the work, than the recollection of those, whose acquaintance had begun later. In pursuing my plan, I have perhaps given a more *complete* history of the early settlement, than any other town history contains, although I have somewhat abridged both my plan and materials. But it has led me into a minute and forbidding detail, which I did not anticipate, and which, I fear, few persons will have courage to work through. I have perhaps stated no fact, which will not interest some one, and some land owners may become better acquainted with the history of their possessions, than they now are. But I am aware, that the persons will be few, who will feel an interest in any part of the work, limited as they must be, to those who have been, are, or may be residents of the town; and that the number, who will be interested in the whole, will be fewer still. The facts have been gathered in scraps, and many of them since the work was written, and were crowded in, as they could be, and, of course, are closely strung together. But I could not, to my own satisfaction, find a stopping place, and have therefore retained the facts, and, to help the reader through as soon as possible, I have compressed the details into as few words as practicable, instead of adopting a more diffuse and untrammelled style. I advise any one, who cares much for his style, not to enlist in any such composition. And the reader, whose patience is not likely to hold out, I advise to skip the chapters, which contain the most tiresome details.

This history is not designed to contain,—and could not properly—a biographical

or other notice of all, who have been, or are, inhabitants of the town; and many most respectable citizens and families are not mentioned at all, because they do not fall directly into the current of the story. But, so far as I have the materials, or they are furnished by others, I have wished to make the readers somewhat acquainted with the character of some of the first settlers and prominent citizens. These notices occupy considerable space, and are not printed separately by themselves, as is sometimes the practice; but to afford relief to the reader, they are inserted in the body of the history, where they belong, as a part of it.

It was my wish to embrace a scientific account of the different branches of the natural history of the town; but I have neither the requisite information on the subject, or sufficient time or strength to obtain it. Several explorations have been made by scientific gentlemen, but I have found no account, which is complete or satisfactory.

Rev. Thomas A. Merrill D. D., as early as 1807, when nearly all the early settlers were living, began to collect facts relating to the settlement of the town, which he incorporated in a sermon, delivered on Thanksgiving day in December 1840. This was printed in a pamphlet, with a large appendix. In a few instances, I may have relied on his statement for a date, or an unimportant fact, without feeling the importance of giving him credit, although I am not aware of any case, where I had not other evidence from records or otherwise. I have designed to obtain facts from original sources, as far as accessible; and, if necessary, in any case, to rely on secondary evidence, to give the proper credit.

Nearly all this work, was written two or three years ago. Numerous deaths and other events have occurred, and some information has been received since, which I have crowded into the text or placed in the notes.

I have occasion to be very grateful, as the reader will be, to the friends, who have gratuitously contributed all the illustrations of the work. These will add a value to it, if there is none elsewhere,—without expense to the subscriber.

In the biographical notice of Judge Phelps, an error occurred, in making Roger S. Sherman, instead of Roger S. Baldwin, his classmate. The former being a familiar name, and both distinguished men in Connecticut, I thoughtlessly committed the error.

An error, from a similar cause, occurred in the biographical notice of Judge Doolittle, in naming the Episcopal Church in Middlebury, St. Peter's, instead of St. Stephen's. And probably the reader will find many more such errors.

SAML. SWIFT.

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HISTORY OF MIDDLEBURY.

CHAPTER I.

LATE SETTLEMENT OF VERMONT—CHARTER AND EXPLANATIONS— PROPRIETORS' RECORDS.

THE settlement, by the English, of the territory now constituting the State of Vermont was long delayed, because it was remote from the seaboard and their earlier settlements. A still greater hindrance to the settlement was the fact that the French, who possessed Canada, had also the possession of Lake Champlain; and in 1731 had established a fort at Crown Point, and in 1756 another at Ticonderoga. They continued their possession and control of the western part of that territory, until they were driven from their forts and the lake by a British force under Gen. Amherst in 1759, which was followed by the final conquest of Canada in 1760. Until this time English settlements in this territory would have been exposed to the constant depredations of the French and Canadian Indians; it being the thoroughfare of their war parties to the south and east.

In the meantime Benning Wentworth had been appointed, in 1741, by the King of England, Governor of the Province of New Hampshire, with authority to issue patents for lands in unoccupied territories, to such persons as applied for them. Assuming that the Province of New Hampshire extended as far west as the Provinces of Massachusetts and Connecticut, he claimed the right, under his authority, to grant charters over this whole territory. His first grant was a charter of the town of Bennington in 1749, extending

to within twenty miles of Hudson River; and in January 1760, he chartered the town of Pownal, south of the former town. About a dozen towns had also been chartered east of the Green Mountains. But excepting the towns of Bennington and Pownal, which were remote from the scene of danger, no grants were made in Western Vermont, until 1761, the year after the conquest of Canada. In that year there was a general rally for lands in what has since been called the "New Hampshire Grants," and no less than sixty charters were granted on both sides of the mountain. Among these was the charter of Middlebury, and eight other towns in the County of Addison.

It was the design of Governor Wentworth, as well as of the grantees, where there was room, and convenient boundaries would permit, to make each town six miles square. This was thought, especially in agricultural regions, a convenient size for towns established under the New England system of town corporations. Larger territories had been granted in the older States of New England; but being found inconvenient for the purposes for which they were designed, they have been divided into two or more towns, or new towns have been formed from parts of several towns. Their experience had taught them the propriety of giving them a more convenient form. This size was thought to be sufficiently convenient for all the freemen to meet in or near the center, for town and freemen's meetings, and large enough to sustain, without too great a burthen, the requisite institutions, and accomplish the objects and discharge the trusts committed to them. And experience has shown that much smaller towns are often heavily burthened and embarrassed in accomplishing these purposes.

Among the applicants for lands were a large number of gentlemen residing principally in Salisbury, Litchfield County, Conn. They agreed to unite in procuring a survey of the lands, and in their application to Governor Wentworth for charters. For this purpose they appointed John Everts, Esq., of that place, as their agent. Having procured the requisite aid, he penetrated into the wilderness a hundred miles beyond any settlements, before he found sufficient space not previously surveyed, or in process of surveying, so far

as to preclude his claim. It is understood, that it was the intention of the applicants to obtain charters for only two towns. But the agent finding that there was sufficient and convenient space for the location of three towns, on the east side of Otter Creek, between the "Great Falls" at Vergennes on the north, and Leicester on the south, he proceeded to survey the whole tract. Beginning at the head of the falls he surveyed the excellent township of New Haven, and proceeding south he surveyed the other two towns. The head of the falls at Vergennes was fixed on as a permanent boundary and starting point, from which the whole tract was surveyed and measured. This also is a boundary and starting point from which the important town of Ferrisburgh was laid out. This point was therefore regarded as so important, that, in order to make the location more definite, a cannon was placed perpendicularly in the rock, in a hole excavated for that purpose. This monument is still standing.

In order to make arrangement for a sufficient number of grantees for each of the three towns, some of the original applicants agreed to take shares in two and others in all the three: and a few more were admitted as proprietors. On the application of the agent the Governor of New Hampshire issued charters for these three towns, according to the surveys presented. The southern was named Salisbury, from the town in which the grantees resided; the northern, from another distinguished town in Connecticut, was named New Haven; and the other was named Middlebury, because it was located between the others. The charters of New Haven and Middlebury are dated November 2, 1761, that of Salisbury on the third day of the same month. By the charters all the towns are bounded west on Otter Creek, and extend, where there is not room below, up the western slope of the Green Mountain for their eastern boundary.

The charter of Middlebury is made in a printed blank, of the same description as those of the other towns, and we omit the more formal parts, together with the provisions for fairs and markets and give only an abstract.

Benning Wentworth, Governor of New Hampshire, in the name

of George the Third, King of England, grants "unto our loving subjects of our said Province of New Hampshire and our other Governments," "whose names are entered on this grant, to be divided to and amongst them into sixty-eight equal shares," a tract "containing by admeasurement 25,040 acres, which tract is to contain something more than six miles square." The boundaries are as follows: "Beginning at the southerly corner of a township granted this day by the name of New Haven, at a tree marked, standing on the bank of the easterly or northeasterly side of Otter Creek, so called, from thence running east seven miles, thence turning off and running south ten degrees west six miles and sixty-four rods, then turning off and running west to Otter Creek aforesaid; then down said creek, as that runs to the bound first mentioned," and it "is incorporated into a township by the name of Middlebury." It also provides, "that the first meeting for the choice of town officers shall be held on the first Tuesday in January next, which said meeting shall be notified by Capt. Samuel Moore, who is hereby also appointed moderator of the said first meeting," and that "the annual meeting forever hereafter for the choice of such officers for the said town shall be on the second Tuesday of March annually." The following conditions are annexed to the charter. *First*, every grantee, his heirs or assigns, shall plant and cultivate five acres of land, within the time of five years, for every fifty acres contained in his share," "on penalty of the forfeiture of his grant or share in said township." *Second*, "that all white and other pine trees, fit for masting our Royal Navy be carefully preserved for that purpose," "upon penalty of the forfeiture of the right of such grantee," "as well as being subject to the penalty," of acts of Parliament. *Third*, "that before any division among the grantees, a tract of land, as near the centre of said township, as the land will admit of, shall be reserved and marked out for town lots, one of which shall be allotted to each grantee, of the contents of one acre." *Fourth*, "the grantees to pay annually, for ten years, the rent of one ear of Indian Corn only, if lawfully demanded." *Fifth*, every proprietor, settler or inhabitant, "to pay annually after ten years" "one

shilling proclamation money for every hundred acres," he so owns
 "in lieu of all other rents, and services whatsoever."

The following are the endorsements on the back of the charter.

"THE NAMES OF THE GRANTEES OF MIDDLEBURY, VIZ:

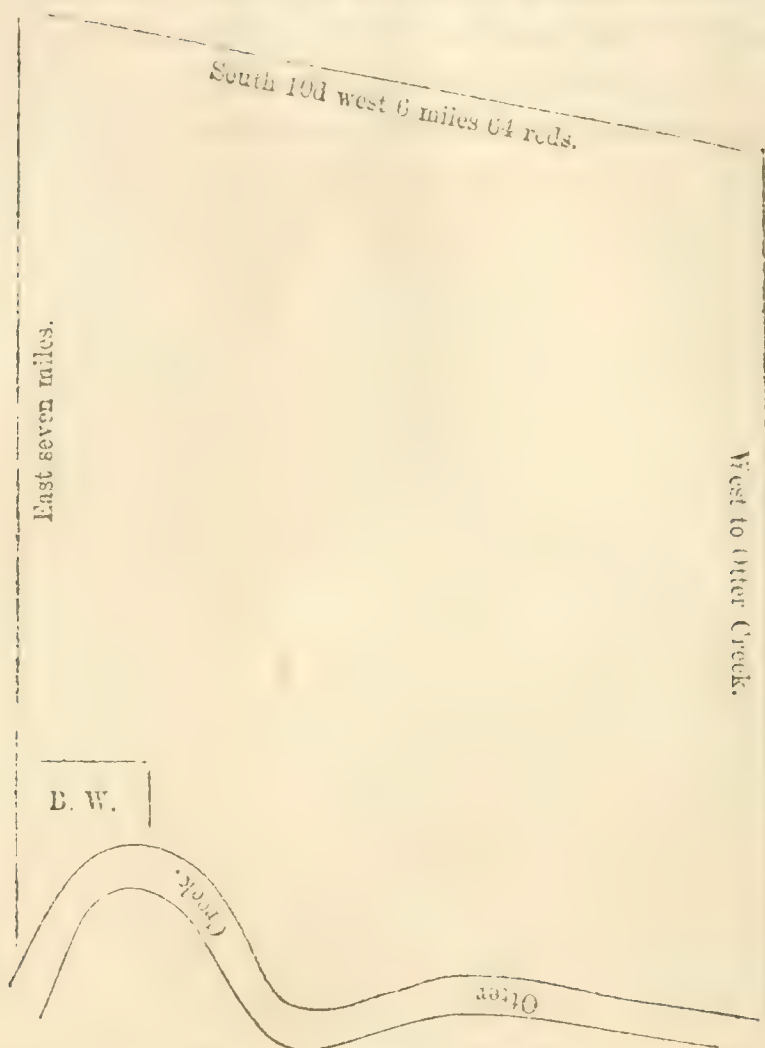
John Evarts,	Nathl. Evarts, 3d,	Amos Hanchit,
Elijah Skinner,	John Turner, Jun.,	Saml. Towsley,
Elkanah Paris,	Ebenr. Field, 3d,	John Strong,
Benjamin Paris,	Saml. Turner,	John How,
John Baker,	Zechariah Foss,	Oliver Evarts,
Gideon Hurlbut,	Ebenr. Field,	Russell Hunt,
Ebenr. Hanchit,	Nathl. Flint,	Capt. Josiah Stoddard,
Deliva. Spalding,	Benjn. Everist,	Bethel Sellick,
Noah Chittenden,	Jeremiah How,	Saml. Skinner,
Mattw. Bostwick,	John Read,	Capt. Saml. Moore,
Thomas Chittenden,	James Claghorn,	Hezekiah Camp, Jun.,
John Abbit,	Lt. Mathias Kelsey,	John McQuivey,
Moses Read,	Daniel Morris,	Benjamin Smalley,
Saml. Keep,	Rufus Marsh,	Lt. John Seymour,
Elisha Painter,	Elias Read,	Datis Ensign,
Ruluff White,	Noah Waddams,	Lt. Janna Meigs, ✓
Elisha Sheldon, Jun.,	John Evarts, Jun.,	David Owen.
Moses Read, Jun.,	Jona. Moore Jun.,	Charles Brewster,
Matthw. Baldin,	Nathl. Skinner, Jun.,	Theo. Atkinson, Esq.,
Lt. Jonathan Moore,	David Hide, Jun.,	M. H. Wentworth, Esq.
John Benton,	Thomas Chipman,	

His Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq., a tract of land containing five hundred acres, as marked B. W. in the plan, which is to be accounted two of the within shares, one whole share for the Incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts, one share for a glebe for the Church of England, as by law established, one share for the first settled minister of the gospel, and one share for the benefit of a school in said town.

Province of New Hampshire, Nov. 2d, 1761.

Recorded in Book of charters, page 278.

THEODORE ATKINSON, Secy."

[*Plan of Middlebury.*]

To the sixty shares of the sixty applicants, is added one share each for Theodore Atkinson, the governor's secretary, Michael H. Wentworth, his nephew, the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, a glebe for the Church of England, and for a school, making, with two shares for the governor, sixty-eight, as mentioned in the charter.

The boundaries probably contain "something more than six miles square," but not so much as the plan on the back represents. It was probably supposed that Otter Creek, which is the western boundary, runs east of north about the same as the description places the eastern boundary, 10 degrees; but its course is somewhat west of north; by which the north line does not extend so far

east as was supposed, and of course the south line returning to the creek is shorter than was intended.

The "rent of one ear of Indian corn," for the first ten years, in the fourth condition of the charter, is only a nominal rent, while the grantees should be clearing up their farms, intended as an acknowledgment, that they hold, according to the Feudal system, as tenants under the king, and have not an absolute independent title, such as we call *fee simple*. The rent of "one shilling proclamation money," was designed as a permanent rent, to be paid annually to the king, after ten years. The governor of New York required a higher rent in all his grants: and it was a ground of opposition by the Green Mountain Boys to the claims of that State, that besides the exorbitant fees of the governor, and other officers concerned in completing the grants, he demanded a rent of "two and six pence" for each hundred acres. Our thanks are due to the revolutionary patriots, that we are wholly free from any such servile burthens. The "proclamation money" in which the rent was to be paid, or "prock money," as it is called in some of the records of the proprietors, means simply the lawful money of New England, six shillings to the dollar, established by proclamation, instead of sterling money.

According to the directions of the charter, "Capt. Samuel Moore," who was by that instrument appointed moderator, gave notice of the first meeting of the proprietors, and presided in it, and the following is a copy of the record of the proceedings.

"At a meeting of the proprietors of the town of Middlebury, in the Province of New Hampshire, said meeting being regularly and legally warned, and held at the dwelling house of Mr. John Evarts, in Salisbury, this 5th day of January, A. D. 1762.

1. Voted and chose Samuel Keep clerk for said proprietors.
2. Voted and chose Matthias Kelsey, Ebenezer Hanchit and James Nichols selectmen for said town of Middlebury.
3. Voted and chose Jonathan Chipman collector for said proprietors.
4. Voted to allow 10s to Matthias Kelsey for his cost and extraordinary trouble in the proprietors service.
5. Voted to raise 9s on each right, 6s in silver and 3s prock money, except those which have paid a 9s rate, which was granted when the proprs. of New Haven, Middlebury, Salisbury and Cornwall were jointly in company,—such to be exempted.

6. Voted to give Mr. Atkinson for his kindness and many good services, done for the proprietors, 300 acres in said township adjoining Governor Wentworth's right of 500 acres, allowing a highway or highways through said land for the benefit of ye proprietors, in the most convenient place or places.

7. Voted and adjourned this meeting to the 2d Tuesday in March next, at 10 o'clock before noon at Capt. Samuel Moore's in Salisbury.

Test SAML. KEEP, Proprietors Clerk."

"At an adjourned meeting of the proprietors of the township of Middlebury, held at the house of Capt. Samuel Moore in Salisbury, on the 9th day of March, A. D. 1762.

1. Voted and chose Samuel Keep Clerk.

2. Voted and chose Matthias Kelsey, Ebenezer Hanchit, and Charles Brewster, selectmen for said town.

3. Voted and chose Jonathan Chipman, Collector.

4. Voted and chose John Evarts, Treasurer.

5. Voted to send Matthias Kelsey, to lay out 50 acres to each right in said township.

6. Voted to raise a rate of 9s on each right.

7. Voted to give 6s per day to committee men.

8. Voted to lay out one acre to each grantee, as near the centre of said town as possible.

9. Voted and adjourned this meeting till ye 2nd Tuesday of October, at one of ye clock afternoon, at the house of Capt. Samuel Moore, in Salisbury.

Teste SAML. KEEP, Clerk."

It will be observed, that this meeting was held on the day appointed by the charter for "the annual meeting forever hereafter," to be held "for the choice of officers for said town." It was for this reason that the officers were re-chosen, although they had been chosen but two months before. An adjourned meeting was held at the time and place appointed, and again adjourned to the 2d Tuesday of February next at the same place; and a meeting at the time appointed by the last adjournment "was opened and then voted and dissolved said meeting."

The following are the records of three meetings, all of which seemed to have been designed to constitute the annual March meeting for 1763. For some reason, the second, which was held as an adjourned meeting, and perhaps the first, were not considered legal, or a majority were not satisfied with the proceedings, as at the third, which was held on the same day as the adjournment of the first, the whole business was performed anew with some alterations, and for this probably a new notice was given.

"At a meeting of the proprietors of the township of Middlebury held at the house of John Evarts in Salisbury, this 21 Tuesday of March, A. D. 1763.

1. Voted and chose Mr. John Evart, moderator.
2. Voted and chose Saml. Keep Clerk.
3. Voted and adjourned said meeting till ye 4th Tuesday of instant March at 10 o'clock before noon, at the house of Capt. Samuel Moore, in Salisbury.

Teste SAML. KEEP, Proprietors Clerk."

"At a meeting of the proprietors of the township of Middlebury, held by adjournment at the house of Capt. Saml. Moore in Salisbury, this 22d day of March 1763.

1. Voted and chose Matthias Kelsey, Ebenezer Hanchit and Saml. Tousley selectmen for said town of Middlebury.
2. Voted the next annual meeting, viz. ye 2nd Tuesday in March next, shall be holden at the house of Capt. Saml. Moore in Salisbury.
3. Voted and dissolved sd meeting. Test SAML. KEEP Clerk."

"At a meeting of the proprietors of the township of Middlebury in the Province of New Hampshire, being legally warned and held, at the house of Capt. Saml. Moore in Salisbury, this 4th Tuesday of March, A. D. 1763.

1. Voted and chose Capt. Saml. Moore Moderator.
2. Voted and chose Saml. Keep, Clerk.
3. Voted and chose John Evarts, Capt. Saml. Moore and Matthias Kelsey as-
SISTORS.

4. Voted to lay out one acre to each right or share, as near the centre of the township, as conveniently may, with allowance for highway or ways, if needful, each highway to be 4 rods wide.

5. Voted to raise a rate of 20s on each right to defray the charge of laying out the first and 2nd divisions, (public rights only not to pay.)

6. Voted to give the whole of the above said 20s rate to the committee, that shall lay out the first and second divisions in said township, and produce a mathematical plan thereof by the first day of October next. Said committee to lay out all the public rights in said township. Said committee to collect said 20s rate. James Nichols and Benjamin Smalley appointed committee to lay out sd first and 2nd divisions.

7. Voted to raise a rate of 9s on each right to pay the back charge except such as have paid ye 9s rate, which was granted ye 5th of January, A. D. 1762.

8. Voted and chose Benjamin Smalley, Collector.

9. Voted and chose Mr. John Evarts, Treasurer.

10. Voted that the treasurer pay to Mr. Benjn. Smalley the sum of 4s which is due to him for money he paid for said proprietors.

11. Voted and adjourned this meeting to the 2nd day of October next at 12 o'clock, at the house of Capt. Saml. Moore in Salisbury.

Test SAML. KEEP, Proprietors Clerk."

"At a meeting of the proprietors of the township of Middlebury, held at the house of Capt. Saml. Moore in Salisbury, this 29th day of December, A. D. 1763.

1. Voted and chose Capt. Saml. Moore, Moderator.
2. Voted and chose Saml. Keep, Proprietors Clerk.

3. Voted and accepted the plan presented by Benjamin Smailey, as a mathematical plan of sd township.

4. Voted that John Hutchinson and Samuel Moore, Jr., draw the lottery for the rights aforesaid.

Voted and adjourned sd meeting till the annual town meeting in March next at the house of Capt. Sam'l Moore, in Salisbury.

Test, SAM'L KEEP, Proprietors Clerk.

There is no record of the annual March Meeting in 1764.

"At a meeting of the proprietors of the township of Middlebury, legally warned and opened at the house of Doctr. Joshua Porter in Salisbury, this second Tuesday of March, 1765.

1. Voted and choses Mr. James Nichols Moderator for said meeting.

2. Voted and adjourned sd meeting to the house of Mr. John Evarts, forthwith.

3. Opened sd meeting at said Evarts, and voted and chose Ebenezer Hanchet, John Evarts, and Sam'l Keep, Committee for said proprietors.

4. Voted that, if any man or men, by the first day of May next shall appear and give sufficient bond to the proprietor's Committee to build a good saw-mill, within fifteen months from this day in the township of Middlebury, he shall have any mill-place, which he or they shall choose insaid township, viz: in the undivided part thereof, and also fifty acres of land adjoining said mill-place, he or they to be at the cost of laying out said fifty acres, and build said mill so as to leave room for fifty acres, to be laid out to accommodate a grist mill, and proper place to set a grist mill, if the proprietors see fit to improve it.

5. Voted to lay out a third division, 100 acres to each grantee, as soon as may be conveniently done the ensuing summer.

6. Voted and chose James Nichols, Timothy Harris and Sam'l Keep, a committee to lay out said 3d division, and also to employ all needful help to assist in laying out the same.

7. Voted to give 5s. per day to each committee-man, so long as they shall be faithfully in the service of laying out said 3d division.

8. Voted to raise a rate of 10s. lawfull money on each right to defray the charge of laying out said 3d division, to be paid by ye first day of September next.

9. Voted and chose Ebenezer Hanchet, Collector.

10. Voted and chose Enoch Strong, Jonathan Hall and Sam'l Tously assessors.

11. Voted to raise 2s. on each right and give the same to any man or men, who shall, the ensuing summer, clear a cart road from the road last fall cut from Arlington to Crown Point, viz: from about ten or twelve miles beyond where No. 4 road crosses Otter Creek; said road to be cleared on the east side of said Creek, through the townships of Salisbury, Middlebury and New Haven.

12. Voted and adjourned half an hour.

13. Opened. Voted and chose Ebenezer Hanchet, Treasurer.

14. Voted to pay 6s. to Samuel Keep, for his paying the same sum to the printer for advertising this meeting.

15 Voted and adjourned this meeting to the first Tuesday of December next at 2 o'clock afternoon at the house of Mr. John Evarts, in Salisbury.

Test, SAM'L KEEP, Proprietor's Clerk.

There is no record of a meeting held at the time of the above adjournment, or of the annual meeting in March 1766.

"At a meeting of the proprietors of the township of Middlebury, legally warned, opened and held at the dwelling house of Mr. John Evarts in Salisbury, in Litchfield County, and Colony of Connecticut, the 7th day of April, 1766.

1. Voted and chose Mr. James Nichols Moderator for said meeting.

2. Voted that each proprietor that shall, the ensuing summer, repair to Middlebury, and do the duty agreeable to the directions of the charter for said township, so as to hold said right, that such proprietor or proprietors shall have thirty-five acres to each right or share in said township over and above his or their equal proportion with the rest of the proprietors in said township; provided he or they will be at the trouble and cost of laying out said thirty-five acres in good form in any of the undivided part of said township, reserving every convenient place or stream for mills, to be disposed of hereafter, as shall be thought proper, and also highways, if needed through each thirty-five acres.

3. Voted and adjourned this meeting to the 2nd Tuesday of January next, at 2 o'clock afternoon at this place.

Test, SAM'L KEEP, Clerk."

At the time of the adjournment above mentioned, a meeting was held, and was further adjourned to the "third Tuesday of April next," at the same place. And the meeting held at that time was again adjourned to the third Tuesday of May following.

"SALISBURY the 3d Tuesday of May, A. D. 1767.

Then the proprietors of the township of Middlebury met at the dwelling house of Mr. John Evarts in Salisbury, according to adjournment. Opened the meeting and adjourned to the 2nd Tuesday of October next, at 2 o'clock afternoon, at the dwelling house of Doct. Joshua Porter, Esq., in said Salisbury.

Test, SAM'L KEEP, Proprietor's Clerk."

We have copied thus extensively the records of the proceedings of the original proprietors for the first five or six years, that our readers may be able to know, as far as we are able to tell them, what our predecessors did for the settlement of the town—how they did it and who were the agents employed. We have inserted *verbatim* the whole of their proceedings during this term, except the adjournment of a few meetings, when nothing else was done, and of these we have given an abstract. We have done this because no other records of these proceedings to this time are to be

found, and these are in a perishable paper book, which may be gone with the others before the next generation will have opportunity to see them. *

From the indisposition of the proprietors to remove so far into the wilderness, it is probable that few proceedings were had, and few efforts were made towards the settlement of the town from 1767 to 1773. It is probable also, that the decision of King George the Third, on the 26th day of July, 1764, placing the territory under the jurisdiction of New York, and the severe contest with that State, which followed, also interrupted the settlement. The Revolutionary war, from 1775 to 1783, was also a total interruption. But from a laborious examination of the records of deeds and surveys, we have been able to ascertain some further proceedings of the proprietors, and some additional facts connected with the history which will appear in the sequel.

* The records were kept in Salisbury, Connecticut, where the proprietors lived until the spring of 1783, when the owners of the lands, after the close of the Revolutionary war, began to take possession of them. All the records which remain, in addition to the above, are a dozen loose half sheets of paper, which once constituted a part of a book. On one page of these is a list of the numbers drawn to the several original rights in the second division, called the "first hundred acre division," or "home lots." These we have inserted in our diagram of that division. The remainder of the pages contain records of deeds and surveys of pitches, commencing September 1773, and ending February 1775. Some of the deeds recorded in this time were dated as early as 1763, but principally in 1773, about the time the proprietors first began to bestir themselves to take possession of the lands. During this time Oliver Evarts was proprietor's clerk. The only book of records to be found, which was kept after the business was removed to Middlebury, is a book containing surveys of pitches made by the proprietors, and recorded from May 1783 to June 1793, by John Chipman, proprietor's clerk. In the same book are contained also surveys of highways laid out in April and July 1786, by committees of the proprietors. There was also recorded in the same book, December 22, 1735, surveys of the several lots of the first hundred acre division, made by order of the proprietors in the summer of 1763, eighteen years before. The original surveys are not to be found. Some years after this George Chipman, Esq., was chosen clerk of the proprietors. But no records are to be found of proceedings under his administration: and probably little was done, as the town had then been many years organized. The records which remain are now in the town clerk's office.

CHAPTER II.

RESULTS OF THE VOTES OF THE PROPRIETORS—PARTITION—TOWN PLOT—SECOND OR FIRST HUNDRED ACRE DIVISION—THIRD OR SECOND HUNDRED ACRE DIVISION—JOHN CHIPMAN'S AND OTHER SURVEYS—CHANGE OF TERRITORIAL LIMITS.

WE now proceed to state so far as we are able, the results of the proceedings of the proprietors, at their meetings. In the proceedings of the first meeting, reference is made to the time when "New Haven, Middlebury, Salisbury and Cornwall were jointly in company." This co-operation undoubtedly had reference to the measures adopted in procuring the charters. Most of the proprietors resided in the same neighborhood, and the towns chartered joined each other. Elias Reed, the agent for procuring the charter of Cornwall, resided also in Salisbury. The charters of all the towns are dated on two consecutive days; those of Salisbury and Middlebury on the second of November, and those of New Haven and Cornwall on the third of the same month. The applicants for all the towns undoubtedly met together to consult respecting the measures to be adopted, and assessed all the proprietors of each right to defray the joint expenses. The agents also went together to the governor of New Hampshire. Such a co-operation would of course reduce the expenses of each. The tax assessed at this meeting was intended to apply only to the delinquents. Besides, the first meeting of the proprietors of each town was appointed to be held about the same time, and probably in the same place.

Independent of the vote passed at this meeting, Mr. Atkinson had a claim to one right, but the charter did not locate it "adjoining Governor Wentworth's 500 acres."

No movement seems to have been made to carry into effect the votes passed at the annual meeting in 1762, "to send Matthias Kelsey to lay out 50 acres to each right," and "to lay out one acre to each grantee." At the meeting held on the fourth Tuesday of March 1763, the vote "to lay out one acre to each right" was renewed, and a vote was passed "to raise a rate to defray the charge of laying out the first and second divisions," but no vote is recorded as being passed then or at any other time, to make a second division of 100 acres, or a "first 100 acre division." Whether such a vote failed to be passed through forgetfulness, or failed to be recorded through the neglect of the clerk, does not appear. But it seems to have been understood, that such a division was to be made; and when made by the committee, appointed for that purpose, it was accepted by the meeting to which the report was made.

It appears, that no person accepted the proposition of the proprietors, made at their meeting in March 1765, to "give a sufficient bond to build a good saw mill within fifteen months," and in consideration thereof "to have any mill place he may choose," and "also fifty acres of land," and no such mill was built for the next nine years.

As little was accomplished, in pursuance of the vote, at the same meeting offering the proceeds of a tax of "2s on each right to any man or men, who shall, the ensuing summer, clear a cart road on the east side of the creek." It does not appear that at any time the contemplated road was opened by any general concert of the towns, or inhabitants; but the roads, through the several towns, were probably built, as the necessities of the settlers required to open a communication to their lands. At what time roads were opened into Middlebury from the south is uncertain. The road from Arlington to Crown Point, at this time, it seems, was opened "10 or 12 miles beyond where No. 4 (Charlestown) road crosses Otter Creek;" which was probably as far as the foot of Sutherland's Falls. It is known that the road was built thus far some time before it was extended further. Obviously no road was opened further, when the first settlers came to Middlebury. From this point the creek was used in summer by rafts and canoes, and in the winter on the ice, and

cattle were driven through the woods on the borders of the creek. The same course of travel was preferred, to some extent, for some years after the trees were cut down for a road.

The proposition made at the meeting on the 7th of April 1766, granting "thirty-five acres" to "each proprietor, that shall repair to Middlebury and do duty agreeable to the directions of the charter," was also disregarded, unless the case of Col. John Chipman hereafter mentioned is an exception. However that may be, he never obtained his thirty-five acres.

The second, or first hundred acre division was laid out in two tiers, the first or eastern at the foot of the mountain. It commenced at what was then supposed to be the south line of New Haven. By a correction afterwards this line was removed about forty rods further north, forming a strip of that width between it and the north line of the "home lots," two miles long; which was called the "long lot," and was afterwards pitched with other undivided lands. In the eastern tier was laid out thirty-nine lots, extending not quite to the north line of Salisbury; numbered from No. 1, at the north regularly to the south. The second or west tier, adjoining the first, commenced with No. 40, at the north, and extended south to No. 66, which made the whole number of rights granted, except the governor's reservation. This tier of course did not extend so far south as the first, having only seventeen lots. Each lot contains one hundred acres, with allowance for highways. The length east and west is called a mile, but by the survey is 330 rods, and the width is fifty rods. The course of the east and west lines is from the north ten degrees west of south, and parallel with the east line of the town. The north and south lines run east and west, parallel with the north line of the town. Between Nos. 53 and 54, in the west tier, was reserved a space of the width of two lots, or one hundred rods, in which was laid out the first or one acre division; the west line corresponding with the west line of the one hundred acre division, and extending east one hundred and twenty-four rods. This division is called the town plot, and has never been divided among the proprietors into one acre lots.

The following diagram exhibits a plan of these divisions, with the numbers and original proprietors of the lots.

South 10° West.	40 Matthew Baldwin.	1 Rufus White
	41 Samuel Turner.	2 School Right.
	42 Russell Hunt.	3 Jonathan Moore.
	43 Oliver Evarts.	4 David Hyde, Jr.
	44 T. Atkinson.	5 Ebenezer Field, Jr.
	45 Moses Reed.	6 Elijah Skinner.
	46 Bethel Mellick.	7 Rufus Marsh.
	47 Thomas Chittenden.	8 Eleanah Paris.
	48 John Abbott.	9 Elias Reed
	49 Glebe Right.	10 Propagation Right.
	50 Hezekiah Camp, Jr.	11 John Seymour.
	51 Jeremiah Howe.	12 John Tilton.
	52 Benjamin Paris.	13 Noah Waddams.
	53 Moses Reed, Jr.	14 Jonathan Moore, Jr.
	Town Glebe	15 Nathaniel Evarts.
	Plot. 24 100a. div.	16 Elisha Painter.
	54 Minister's Right	17 Gideon Hardbut.
	55 Ebenezer Field.	18 John Evarts
	56 Samuel Skinner.	19 John Howe.
	57 Elisha Sheldon.	20 Zachariah Foss.
	58 Noah Chittenden.	21 Nathaniel Flint.
	59 Ebenezer Blanchet	22 M. H. Wentworth.
	60 Samuel Towsley.	23 Deliverance Spalding.
	61 Charles Brewster.	24 John Reed.
	62 Samuel Moore	25 Thomas Chiptuan
	63 Janna Meigs	26 Amos Blanchet
	64 Datus Ensign.	27 John Baker.
	65 Jonah Stoddard.	28 Benjamin Smalley.
	66 James Claghorn	29 David Owen.
		30 Benjamin Everest.
		31 John McQuivey.
		32 John Strong
		33 John Turner, Jr.
		34 Matthias Kelsey.
		35 Nathaniel Skinner, Jr.
		36 Daniel Morris
		37 Samuel Keep.
		38 John Evarts, Jr.
		39 Matthew Bestwick.

South 10° West.

The following boundaries may explain the position of this division in its present relation to other lands. Munger street passes through No. 40, the first lot in the west tier, about one-third of a mile from the east and two-thirds of a mile from the west end. This road, inclining to the east passes across the northeast corner of No. 52, to the line between the tiers, and thence on that line to Darius Severance's. The saw-mill on Muddy Branch, owned by Nichols and Wheeler, is on the west end of No. 47, and the road formerly leading from this mill southwardly to the dwelling house of the late Philip Foot is on the west line of the west tier. The same road still running varies little from the same line until it reaches the Centre Turnpike. The road leading from the late dwelling house of Abner Everts to the line of Salisbury is on the west line of the east tier, and the east line of the same tier passes through the village of East Middlebury; the building lots of David Olmstead and Kneeland Olmstead being on the east end of lot No. 36.

It seems, that at the time this division was made, the Middlebury lands were not in very high estimation. Benjamin Smalley, who had been appointed collector of the "rate," assessed to "defray the charge of laying out the first and second divisions," sold in the summer following no less than twenty-four whole rights, on which the tax had not been paid, at from £2, 1s. to £1, 10s. each, and in his report stated, "that one hundred acres of each of the rights that hath been sold in the whole of this vendue, was put up first to be sold, as the law of the Province of New Hampshire directs, but none appearing to buy, the whole rights were sold at the prices set against each right."

The third, or "second hundred acre" division, authorized at the meeting held in March 1765, was never located by the committee appointed for that purpose, or by any other committee or agents of the proprietors; but each owner was authorized to locate his own lot by "pitching." Each proprietor accordingly surveyed his land in such manner and at such place as he chose. This practice made great confusion, and the absence of the records, containing the principal surveys of this division has made it difficult

to ascertain correctly the location of many of these lots. Many of the surveys commence at trees or other monuments, which have disappeared, and without any reference to permanent boundaries. Some of the lots are known by their numbers, and, for that reason have been supposed to be regularly laid out in the south part of the town. But the numbers do not seem to have any reference to the location of the lots, and, with few exceptions, are scattered irregularly over the town. The numbers were probably derived from the order of time in which the lots were surveyed. Only the earlier surveys are numbered, and none of the surveys, which we have discovered, contain the numbers, although some of them refer to the numbers of other lots previously surveyed. We have, in our possession, belonging to Allen Foot, a plan of Daniel Foot's lands, made out, under his direction, by Col. Bott, of Bridport. By this it appears, that the earliest numbers of this division were attached to land belonging to Daniel Foot and his family, or adjoining such lands, and probably owned by him, and all in the neighborhood of the location he had fixed on for the centre of the town. Several of the lots lie west of and adjoining home lots owned by him, and all were probably laid out and numbered under his direction.

It seems, that the proprietors in 1772, probably by a general vote, authorized the owners of the rights to pitch two hundred acres together. There are numerous examples of this, as will be seen hereafter. The conditions, on which this authority was given we have not been able to ascertain; nor are we able to satisfy ourselves fully, whether these pitches were intended to embrace the second and third hundred acre divisions, or whether the vote of the proprietors authorized the owners to surrender their home lots, and pitch the first and second hundred acres together. It appears also by surveys on record, that John Chipman and Daniel Foot, and perhaps others, were authorized to surrender their home lots and pitch anew "in exchange for that was laid by the committee."

It has been our wish, as far as possible, to show who were the first settlers, and the lots on which they settled. For this purpose, and to supply the deficiency of the records of the proprietors' meetings, we have made an extensive and laborious search of their

records of surveys and deeds, so far as we have found them, as well as the town records; and for this purpose we copy below some of the more prominent surveys, and give abstracts of others. The numbers mentioned in the surveys are the numbers of the home lots belonging to the same rights.

JOHN CHIPMAN'S SURVEY.

"Laid out to John Chipman, two hundred acres of land lying in the southwest part of Middlebury, and on Middlebury River, beginning at a walnut tree, south side of a black ash swamp, the northeast corner of *his lot*, then east thirty-seven degrees south one hundred and sixty rods to a white-pine tree, then south thirty-seven degrees west two hundred rods to a white hazel stubble, then west thirty-seven degrees north one hundred and sixty rods to a walnut tree, then to the first mentioned bounds—being the original proprietor of the right of Elisha Painter, number 16. September 20th, 1773.

Surveyed by me, PHINEAS BROWN, Surveyor."

G. PAINTER'S SURVEY.

"Laid out to Gamaliel Painter, two hundred acres of land in Middlebury, Deliverance Spalding being the original proprietor of the lot No. 23. It butts and bounds as follows: beginning on *his north line*, about fifteen rods north of *his house*, at a large heap of stones on the ledge by the river, thence east thirty-seven degrees south fifty-six rods to a stake, then south thirty-seven degrees west one hundred and sixty rods to a red ash tree, thence west thirty-seven degrees north two hundred rods to a large maple, then north thirty-seven degrees east one hundred and sixty rods to a hard maple, then to the first mentioned bounds. September 23d, 1773.

Surveyed by me, PHINEAS BROWN, Surveyor."

BENJAMIN SMALLEY'S SURVEY.

"Laid out to Benjamin Smalley, two hundred acres of land, lying in the southwest part of Middlebury, and on the mouth of Middlebury River, where it empties into the creek. Begins at a stake at the northwest corner of *his lot* on the creek, then east twenty degrees south two hundred and seventeen rods to a walnut tree, John Chipman's northwest corner, then south thirty-seven degrees west two hundred and three rods to a walnut tree, the southwest corner of John Chipman's lot, then west thirty-seven degrees north one hundred and twenty-seven rods to the creek, thence on the creek to the first mentioned bounds. Russel Hunt being the original proprietor, lot No. 42. September 23, 1773.

Surveyed by me, PHINEAS BROWN, Surveyor."

At the time of these surveys, the owners were living on the lands, and Painter's survey refers to "his house" and his "north line,"

Chipman's to the "northwest corner of his lot," and Smalley's has the same reference. Probably they had previously run out lines for themselves to show the extent of their claims, or they might at first have pitched only one division, and afterwards had their lots re-surveyed to contain the two.

John Chipman also pitched a lot, on the 15th of August 1774, containing one hundred acres, lying south of the two hundred acres pitches of John Chipman and Benjamin Smalley, extending from Painter's 200 acre pitch on the east to the creek on the west, "laid in the third (second hundred acre) division, on the original right of Janna Meigs. This lot was afterwards purchased by his brother Thomas Chipman, and occupied by him as his home farm.

During the period, in which Phineas Brown was surveying the above mentioned two hundred acre lots, he surveyed also the two following in the same neighborhood. On the 22d of September 1773, "laid out to Thomas Skeel two hundred acres, lying in Middlebury and on Middlebury River, beginning at the southwest corner of his lot, at a maple staddle, then east 19° south 160 rods to a stake, then north 19° east 200 rods to a stake by the river, then west 19° north 160 rods to a stake, thence to the first bounds."

September 23d, 1773, "laid out to Eleazar Slasson 200 acres of land in the township of Middlebury, Nathaniel Flint being the original proprietor of lot No. 21. It butts and bounds as follows, beginning at a stake, the northwest corner of Thomas Skeel's lot, then east 19° south 160 rods to a stake, the southeast corner of said Slasson's, and the northeast corner of said Skeel's, then north 19° east 96 rods to the home lots, then north 11° east on the home lots 107 rods to a witchhazle staddle, then west 19° north 150 rods to a large beech tree, then south 19° west 200 rods, then east 19° south four rods to the first mentioned bounds."

It will be perceived that the east line of the Skeel's lot from the south runs eight or nine degrees more to the east than the west line of the home lots, and thus approaches it, but does not reach it. The east line of the Slasson lot, lying north of it, running in the same direction soon reaches it, leaving a narrow wedge between these two pitches and the home lots. Nathaniel Evarts in October 1774,

located a hundred acre pitch on his original right, which embraces this strip. Joshua Hyde having purchased the Skeel's lot purchased also this wedge to bring his land to the home lots and the highway.

Joshua Hyde in 1774, pitched one hundred acres lying east of home lots 36 and 37, and on both sides of Middlebury River, on which the east part of the village of East Middlebury is situated. It embraces the principal water power and is called Hyde's Mill lot.

The following two hundred acre lots in the neighborhood of Middlebury Falls, were surveyed by Plineas Brown, near the same time as those in the south part of the town.

September 28th, 1773. "Laid out to Joshua Hyde two hundred acres of land in the northwest part of Middlebury, Moses Reed being the original proprietor of the right, beginning at the southwest corner at a stake near a red ash tree marked, then east one hundred and sixty rods to a stake, then north two hundred rods to a stake near a beech tree marked, then west one hundred and sixty rods to a hemlock tree marked, then south two hundred rods to the first mentioned bounds."

October 22, 1773. "Surveyed for Oliver Evarts, in the northwesterly part of Middlebury, two hundred acres of land, being the third division of said Evarts' original right (first 100 acre lot No. 43) beginning at a stake, which is the southeast corner of Joshua Hyde's lot, from thence running east 20 degrees south one hundred and sixty rods to a large hard maple tree, marked O. E. from thence running north 20 degrees east 200 rods to a witchhazle sapling, marked O. E. from thence running west 20 degrees north one hundred and sixty rods to a large white oak tree marked; from thence south 20 degrees west 200 rods to the first mentioned bounds."

The location of the former of these lots was very important to our purpose, because the latter has one of its corners for a boundary, and the surveys of several other lots refer to it. The survey contains no permanent boundaries, and gives no intimation of its locality, except that it was "in the northwest part of Middlebury." No record remains of a conveyance from Hyde to any other person; all who were alive at the time have gone to their graves; and in the course of eighty years it has been so often divided and subdi-

vided, that the present owners have no knowledge of the source from which their title is derived. But a very laborious examination of records has solved the mystery. Hyde's two hundred acre pitch lies directly north of the village, and includes the north part of it as far south as the house of Alanson Dustin, and the highway leading from the Methodist chapel to Dr. Bass's. The southwest corner was about twenty-three rods east of the creek, and it extends east over the highest part of the south point of Chipman's Hill. The south part of it was for many years the home farm of Freeman Foot.

The Evarts survey lies east of Hyde's, the southwest corner of the former being the southeast corner of the latter. It embraced the farms on which Stephen Goodrich and Robert Huston settled.

In the year 1784 the Surveyor General re-surveyed the lines of the town, by which the south line of New Haven was moved about forty rods north of what had been recognized as the north line of Middlebury. At the same time the north line of Salisbury was moved north on to territory which had been supposed to be included in the limits of Middlebury, some of which had been laid out as such. Among the lands cut off by this change of the line, was 170 acres of the two hundred acre pitch of Judge Painter, including his house. In April, 1785, the proprietors granted him "the privilege of re-pitching land in lieu of what was cut off by said line." In pursuance of this authority, the following pitch was made in May 1786: "Beginning at a cherry tree, which stands forty links from the bank of Otter Creek, thence east 5 chains and fifty links to a stake near a red ash tree marked, which is the southwest corner of a two hundred acre pitch laid out to Joshua Hyde, on the original right of Moses Reed, thence east on the south line of said pitch 26 chains and 50 links to a maple staddle, thence south 34 chains and 30 links to a hemlock tree, thence west 12 chains and 75 links to an elm staddle standing on the bank of Otter Creek, thence following down the creek, as that runs to the bounds begun at." This embraced the whole of the east side of the falls and was called the "Mill lot."

In the same month Painter surveyed for Abisha Washburn fifty acres, of which he received a deed from Washburn soon after,

bounded as follows : beginning at an elm tree standing on the bank of Otter Creek, the southwest corner of a fifty acre lot (the mill lot) "that was laid out to the said Gamaliel Painter, which contains the falls on Otter Creek, thence east 12 chains and 50 links to the southeast corner of the above mentioned lot, thence north 35 chains to the south line of a 200 acre pitch laid out to Joshua Hyde, thence east 13 chains and 50 links to the southeast corner of said pitch, and the southwest corner of a pitch surveyed to Oliver Evarts, thence south 37 chains to the southwest corner of a 50 acre lot, that Joseph Parker is in possession of, thence west 23 chains to a large hemlock tree on the bank of Otter Creek, thence down the creek, as that runs to the bounds begun at." This adds a tract on the south side of the mill lot, extending to and embracing the present house lot of Horace Crane and the lot now occupied by the family of the late Gideon Carpender, who died November 22, 1858, and embraces a strip on the east of fifty-four rods wide. These two, making 100 acres, constituted the home farm of Judge Painter at the falls, and embrace the whole tract now covered by the village, on the east side of the creek, except what is included in the Hyde pitch above mentioned, and the Risley pitch, on the paper mill road, mentioned below.

In June 1785, Benjamin Risley surveyed, among other lands, a lot of fifty-eight acres, embracing a strip of land between Hyde's 200 acre pitch on the east and the creek, and extending north from Painter's mill lot to Abisha Washburn's pitch, along the paper mill street. In addition to the lots north of the village, already mentioned, a two hundred acre lot was laid out to Samuel Bentley, Jun., next north of Hyde's pitch. Next north of this Joel Evarts pitched a second hundred acre lot. Between the Bentley and Evarts lots on the east, Abisha Washburn had a fifty acre pitch, and north of these and south of the governor's lot, Risley had a hundred acre pitch, extending to the creek. North of all these is the governor's 500 acres, in the northwest corner of the town, the east line of which is about the same as the east line of the highway from Harry Goodrich's to New Haven line. The southeast corner of the lot is the triangular piece, cut off from the main body by the roads, on which John A. Hammond resides.

About the year 1783, the proprietors voted to grant a right to Col. Seth Warner of Bennington. This right, in July of that year, he deeded to his son, "for the love and good will I have to my son Israel Warner, of said Bennington," as he expresses the consideration: and he describes the land as being voted to him by the proprietors "for services done by me in defence of their lands." The selection had been delayed until all the lands below the mountain had been taken up, and Col. Warner's son pitched his land on that part of the mountain, which has since been annexed to Ripton, and it is doubtful, whether much, if anything has been received from it, for the benefit of himself or family. The only survey was made in 1790, and is as follows:

"Surveyed for Israel Warner, one hundred and seventy-seven acres of land, on the adventurer's right of Seth Warner, in the town of Middlebury, as follows: Beginning at a beech tree marked, and the southwest corner of a lot laid out to Appleton Foot, thence west ten degrees south 177 rods to a stake, thence north ten degrees west 160 rods to a stake, thence east ten degrees north 177 rods to a birch tree, the northwest corner of Appleton Foot's lot, thence to the first bounds, containing one hundred and seventy-seven acres"

We shall have occasion to refer to other lots as we proceed with the settlement of the town.

CHANGE OF TERRITORIAL LIMITS.

The following act was passed by the Legislature on the 25th day of October 1796, in pursuance of the vote of the town.

"An act annexing part of the town of Cornwall to Middlebury: It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont, that the northeasterly part of the town of Cornwall, in the County of Addison, hereinafter described, be, and the same is hereby annexed to the town of Middlebury, in said County, bounded as follows, viz: beginning at the southwest corner of said Middlebury, then running west so far that a north line will strike the west end of the long causeway, so-called, then on a straight line to the southeast corner of Ethan Andrus's farm, on which he now lives, thence on the east line of said farm to the northeast corner thereof, thence on a straight line to a large white-pine stump, from which was cut the shingle tree, so-called, thence north to the north line of said Cornwall, thence east on the north line of

said Cornwall to the westwardly side line of Middlebury, thence southerly on the westerly line of Middlebury to the first bounds; and the inhabitants, who do or may hereafter inhabit the above described tract of land, shall, in common with all the other inhabitants of said Middlebury, be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of said Middlebury."

We would in this connection suggest to the wealthy towns of Middlebury and Cornwall, that it might not be improper to substitute more permanent monuments, for the changing and decaying boundaries referred to in this act. Not many years hence the "long causeway" may be converted into a civilized earth road, so that the "west end" shall disappear. "The southeast corner" and the "east line of Ethan Andrus's farm, on which he now lives" may soon be lost to all living men, through the Yankee propensity to change often the titles and boundaries of their farms; and even the stump of the "shingle tree," obstinate as pine roots are, has been already principally, if not wholly removed, through the decay which time has wrought, as well as the necessities of the poor for wood.

The Legislature, on the 11th day of November 1814, also enacted "That a tract of land on the east side of the mountain in Middlebury, in the County of Addison, described as follows, to-wit: beginning at the southeast corner of said Middlebury, thence west on the south line of said town one mile, thence northerly to a stake in the north line of said Middlebury, one mile and a half from the northeast corner of said Middlebury; thence on said north line of said Middlebury, to the northeast corner thereof, thence to the first bounds, be and the same is hereby annexed to the town of Ripton, in said County, and the inhabitants that now do or hereafter may reside on said tract, shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities with the other inhabitants of said Ripton."

By another act passed on the 29th day of October 1829, the farm of Zebina Cushman, lying in Middlebury, and adjoining the west line of Ripton as established by the preceding act was annexed to the latter town.—In these changes Middlebury has lost something in the extent of its territory, but has gained much in value, by exchanging the mountain land on the east for the fertile territory and the valuable water-power added from Cornwall on the west.

CHAPTER III.

SETTLEMENT BEFORE THE WAR IN CHARTER LIMITS—BENJAMIN SMALLEY—GAMALIEL PAINTER—JOHN CHIPMAN AND OTHERS—IN TERRITORY ANNEXED FROM CORNWALL—SURVEYS AND PITCHES—ASA BLODGET—THEOPHILUS ALLEN—THE BENTLEYS AND OTHERS—SETTLEMENT IN THIS TERRITORY AFTER THE WAR.

THE first settlements, designed to be permanent, were commenced in the spring of 1773. At that time the settlers in the State, under the New Hampshire title, had become so numerous, as to inspire them with confidence in their strength effectually to resist the claimants under the New York grants. Most of the towns south of this County had already been settled, or immigrants were fast passing into them. A few settlements had already been made on the French clearing on the lake shore in Addison, and in New Haven on the creek above the falls, and one or more families had taken possession of lands, on the borders of the lake in Panton and Bridport. Gen. Wooster's claim to a tract of land in the north part of Addison, on the lake shore, had been effectually resisted, in the fall of the previous year, by the claimants under the New Hampshire titles. The Scotch tenants of Colonel Reed, who had a grant, as a reduced or half pay officer, including the falls at Vergennes, had, early in that season, been expelled by Ethan Allen and his company of Green Mountain Boys; and all the active New York partizans were in a course of being subdued or rooted out, by the same force. No grants had been made by the governor of New York of lands within the limits of Middlebury, and there were no claimants under that

title. * Thus the way was opened for the proprietors of Middlebury to enter upon the possession of their lands.

Benjamin Smalley from Salisbury, Conn., and brother of the late Rev. Dr. Smalley of Berlin, in that State, was the first immigrant, who brought his family into town. In the spring of 1773, he took possession and built the first log house in town, on his two hundred acre pitch, lying at the mouth of Middlebury River. John Chipman and Gamaliel Painter had been here to look out a place for settlement and make some preparation, and soon after returned with their families. Judge Painter's wife, being a sister of Col. Chipman, they joined forces in making preparations for living in their new abodes. They first built Painter's house, and perhaps had done so before their families came, and there they lived together until Chipman's house was completed. The first houses here, as in other new countries, were log cabins. There was no saw mill in this, or any of the neighboring towns; and if they had had the means, they would not have wasted in building more expensive houses, the time needed for clearing their land for the crops, which were needed for their subsistence. Smalley's house was on the site of the frame house, which he afterwards built and occupied to the time of his death. Chipman's house was also near the place where he afterwards built his brick house; and Painter's was north of and near the river, and east of the centre road leading south, and was thrown into Salisbury, by the re-survey of the town line.

John Chipman had, before this, in 1766, cleared on his lot seven or eight acres, which was the first clearing in Middlebury. In the

* Although no persons were here claiming lands under the New York title, several of the owners, under the New Hampshire charters seem to have been inclined to recognize the jurisdiction of New York. Daniel Foot, Benjamin Smalley, Thomas Skeels and perhaps others, in deeds given soon after the first settlement, describe their residence as in "Middlebury, in the County of Charlotte, and Province of New York." This seems to have been universal in Cornwall. Some deeds given about the same date say, "now the jurisdiction claimed by New York," or "reputed to be in the Province of New York." But it is known on the other hand, that there were in the town, many strenuous and active opposers of that jurisdiction. Many of the first settlers were the neighbors and acquaintances of Ethan Allen, in Salisbury, Connecticut.

spring of that year, he started, with fifteen other young men, for the purpose of looking up, and making preparation for, a settlement in the wilderness. Some of them were destined for that part of New Haven now included in Waltham, bordering on the creek above the falls at Vergennes; some for the lake shore in Panton, and some for the French clearing in Addison. Among the latter was David Vallance, who afterwards settled in that place on the farm recently owned by David Vallance Chambers, his grandson. Chipman and Vallance jointly hired a colored man, with the understanding that he should work half the time for Vallance in Addison, and the other half for Chipman, in Middlebury. This company started from Salisbury, Conn., with a cart and oxen, which conveyed their farming tools and other freight. According to Chipman's account, as related by Dr. Merrill, they found no house north of Manchester. They made their way as they could, through the wilderness, cutting out their path, where there was not room between the trees for their team. They followed up the Battenkill to the headwaters of Otter Creek, which they followed down to the foot of Sutherland's Falls in Pittsford. Here they stopped long enough to make a canoe out of a large tree. They then fastened their cart to the stern of it, loaded their tools and provisions into it, with men enough to row it, while the rest with their oxen traveled through the woods on the bank. At Middlebury they loaded their canoe into the cart, which was drawn by the oxen around the bend of the creek on the east bank, until they arrived at the foot of the lower falls in Weybridge. Here they transferred their canoe to the water and followed the creek to Vergennes.

At this time Chipman had no title to the land, on which he made his clearing, or probably any other in Middlebury. The deed by which he received his title to the land is dated January 14, 1773, only a short time before he commenced his settlement. It is probable that when he reached the mouth of Middlebury River he followed up that stream to a place which promised well for a settlement, and there pitched his tent.

These were the only families, which had located themselves in

town the first year. Eleazar Slasson, the same year commenced a clearing on his two hundred acre pitch, before mentioned, directly west of home lot No. 36, and built a cabin there. The same year James Owen commenced on a part of the same pitch, being a fifty acre lot, which he had before purchased of Slasson. Dr. Merrill says, "James Owen made a beginning but sold to Joshua Hyde." Hyde's deed from Owen is dated 26th June 1781, while both were in Salisbury during the war. Besides, Hyde on his return in 1774, did not settle on any land, which Owen had owned, nor did he until after the war. Samuel Bentley made a beginning and put up a barn on his two hundred acre pitch, north of Hyde's pitch, and near the place where Eleazar Conant afterwards lived on the west side of Chipman's Hill. Jonathan Chipman the same year, commenced a clearing on the second hundred acre lot on the right of his brother Thomas Chipman. This lot lies northeast of Col. Chipman's pitch, and is the same afterwards owned and occupied by Freedom Loomis. Thomas Chipman, the original proprietor, soon after the date of the charter, and before the first meeting of the proprietors, deeded his whole right to his younger brother Jonathan, who attended the meetings and acted as proprietor.

In the year 1774, Robert Torrance moved his family into town, and commenced a settlement on the west end of home lot No. 33, in the place where he afterwards built a brick house, in which he resided until the time of his death. He owned also Nos. 31 and 32, lying next north.

The same year Bill Thayer settled on fifty acres of Slasson's 200 acre pitch, which he had before purchased, lying west of and adjoining home lot No. 34.

Joshua Hyde, one of the earliest settlers, was born in Lebanon, Conn., where his family resided; but when fourteen years of age, he went to live with his uncle, Dr. Joshua Porter in Salisbury, an original proprietor, and remained there until his manhood. In the year 1773, owning a lot of land in that part of New Haven, which has since been formed into the town of Waltham, on Otter Creek, near the falls in Vergennes, he worked on it and put in crops that season. A considerable tract of land in that neighbor-

hood had been granted by the governor of New York to Col. Reed, a reduced or half pay officer of a Scotch regiment, for his services in the French war. Reed had before driven off the claimants under the New Hampshire title, and had put his own tenants in possession. These in their turn were driven off by a company of Green Mountain Boys under Ira Allen. In the summer of 1773, Col. Reed appeared again with a company of recent immigrants from Scotland. The result of the meeting was, that Reed's men went into possession, and the New Hampshire claimants went out. Reed's story was that he paid the men for their crops, and they voluntarily quitted. However that may be, the Scotchmen were not long left in quiet possession, before Ethan Allen appeared with a more formidable force, and effectually and finally banished them from the country. Reference is made to this subject more in detail in the history of Addison County. Mr. Hyde, for some reason, thought it not best to return there, and, after remaining a while in Middlebury, went to Salisbury and spent the winter. Hyde, on his way south, met Ethan Allen and his company, on their way to the falls, to drive off Reed's men, and returned with them.

In the spring of 1774, he returned to Middlebury and commenced a settlement here. He was before the owner of some land in Middlebury, and about the time of his settlement here, he purchased two whole rights, embracing home lots No. 36, which he afterwards cultivated as a part of his home farm, and No. 33, which he sold to Robert Torrance. He also purchased Skeel's 200 acre pitch. This lot lies west of and not far from the home lots. It was undoubtedly on this lot, that he first settled. The place described by Dr. Merrill is on this lot, and the remains of his house are still to be seen there.

William Hopkins this year commenced a clearing and built a cabin on the south part of Oliver Evarts' 200 acre pitch, east of the village, near the place, on which Dr. William Bass, in his life time lived.

Daniel Foot from Dalton, adjoining Pittsfield, Mass., which, in some of his deeds, he calls "Ashuelot Equivalent," owned at least four or five home lots and as many second hundred acre lots, in the

same neighborhood. Among others he owned No. 5, on the right of Nathaniel Skinner, and No. 6, on the right of Samuel Skinner, both lying west of and adjoining the home lots. In 1774, he commenced a settlement, and built a house on No. 5, southwest from where he finally settled. The remains of the foundation of this house are still to be seen.

Simeon Chandler from Arlington, in the year 1775, began a settlement on the west end of home lots Nos. 37 and 38.

Daniel Foot had deeded to Enoch Dewey of Pittsfield, who had married his daughter, lot No. 2, in the second hundred acre division, which lies directly west of home lot No. 63, which Mr. Dewey also owned. On the lot which his father-in-law deeded to him he commenced a clearing near where his son Stillman Dewey lived and died. He did not remove his family before the war, and died of the small pox in February, 1778, in the thirty-third year of his age, leaving two children, Stillman and Patty.

Joseph Plumley, from Salisbury, Conn., in the year 1775, began a settlement on a second hundred acre division on the right of Ebenezer Field. The lot was afterwards owned and for several years occupied by Billy Manning, then by John Simmons, Esq., and now by Reuben Wright. Plumley died soon after and left a widow and one daughter, to whom we shall refer in our account of the settlement after the war.

John Hinman, from Wallingford, the same year settled on a second hundred acre lot, east of lot No. 14 of the same division, in the place where William Carr, Jr., now resides.

In this year Samuel Bentley settled on his two hundred acre pitch, on which he had built a barn in 1773. About the same time James Bentley, his father, settled on the north part of the same pitch, where he was living in 1775.

Philip Foot, the eldest son of Daniel Foot, in 1775, came to Middlebury, a young man, and commenced a clearing on lot No. 7 in the second hundred acre division, lying west of and adjoining home lot No. 56, and north of No. 6, owned by his father. He also owned No. 8, next north of the other.

Eber Evarts, also a young man, and son of Nathaniel Evarts,

an original proprietor, began a clearing this year, on a second hundred acre pitch on the right of his father, which is now owned and occupied by Col. Joel Boardman.

These, so far as we are able to learn, were the only persons who attempted a settlement in the charter limits of Middlebury before the war. And these had scarcely nestled in their new homes in the wilderness, and were anxiously looking forward to brighter scenes, wider fields and more abundant crops and comforts, when the desolations of war disturbed their repose, drove them from their cabins and terminated their anticipations.

In December 1776, and before the family were driven off by the war, Zerah Smalley, a son of Benjamin Smalley, died at the age of eighteen, and in February following, his daughter Anah, of the age of twenty years, having become insane, wandered into the woods, where she remained through the night, exposed to the severe cold of the winter, and perished before she was found in the morning.

TERRITORY ANNEXED FROM CORNWALL.

The territory annexed from Cornwall being separate in its early settlement, we here place together the history of the agricultural part of that territory, as well after as before the war.

The partition of lands in Cornwall is in greater confusion than that of Middlebury; and no land owner can make out a title to his farm except by the statute of limitations, or by a prior possession, which no man can dispute with a better title. There was never any regular division of the lands. The whole seems to have been accomplished by an irregular system of pitches. The right of pitching was often granted on condition of performing certain services, such as clearing out and opening roads. Besides, all the records of the proceedings of the proprietors and of the surveys were burnt previous to the tenth of February 1778. A large portion of this part of Cornwall had been previously surveyed, the records of which were destroyed. The lands near the creek were generally settled earlier than other parts of the town; and nearly as many occupants were in possession of the agricultural parts as at the present time. A few of the surveys previously made, were

recorded after the war, and others are ascertained from subsequent deeds. Such are the following. The proprietors granted to Judge Painter the right of pitching two hundred acres, for service done in surveying the "great road," through Cornwall, which is described as lying "across the north and south road, not far from the middle of the town." One deed, dated May 1, 1784, conveys "one hundred acres, being a part of a certain grant of land, made and granted by the proprietors of said township of Cornwall, to Col. Seth Warner, and Major Robert Cochran and company, for building a block house at New Haven, and other services done for the proprietors of said town."

A meeting of the proprietors was held on the 10th day of February 1778, by adjournment; previous to which all their records were burnt. This meeting was again adjourned from time to time, and on the 15th of April was further adjourned until October following. But no meeting was then held or subsequently until after the war. The next meeting was held in September 1783, the notice of which was signed by "Timothy Bronson Assistant," and dated "Sunderland June 30, 1783," where he resided.

Daniel Foot, previous to his return to Middlebury, after the war, being desirous of obtaining a water power for the erection of mills on the west side of the falls, on the 6th day of February 1784, took a deed from Israel Dewey, of Westfield, Mass., conveying land of the following description,—“One certain right or share of land in the township of Weybridge, in the State of Vermont, and County of Rutland,” “said right is laid out and bounded on Otter Creek, on the falls called and known by the name of Middlebury Falls, and is lot No. 53, which fell to me the subscriber, original proprietor, by draft.” There are also on record several deeds referring to Weybridge “Old corner.” It is obvious that a different line was originally recognized, as dividing the towns of Cornwall and Weybridge, and far enough south to include the falls in the latter town; and by persevering examination, we find that it forms the division line between Foot’s mill lot, and the home farm of the late Col. Storrs. There is no record of the time and manner of altering this line, nor have we found any living man, who had any knowledge of

such a line. But it is probable that the change was made by the surveyor general in 1784, when the town lines of Middlebury were re-surveyed and corrected. Among the records of Cornwall town meeting in November 1787, is the following: "A petition from Weybridge for setting off from Cornwall to the former old line was read and rejected."

The town of Cornwall was organized on the second day of March 1784, two years before Middlebury. The following is the action of the town of Cornwall, in relation to the first bridge built by Daniel Foot across the creek at the falls, at a meeting in September 1788: "The report of the committee to confer with Mr. Foot about the bridge was read: Voted to join with Daniel Foot of Middlebury, to petition the assembly for a lottery to pay Mr. Foot for his bridge over the creek, and, if not granted, to petition for a land tax for the aforesaid purpose." A land tax was granted on the town of Cornwall, as well as on the town of Middlebury, and of which one half the expense was paid by Cornwall.

Asa Blodget from Salisbury, Conn., was probably the first settler in that part of Cornwall annexed to Middlebury. Previous to the 27th of October 1774, he seems to have been the owner of the right of Zuriel Jacobs. On that day he pitched, on that right, "one hundred acres and seven acres for allowance for highways, according to the vote passed at the proprietors' meeting the 3rd of May last," embracing the large bow in the creek, near the south line of the town, owned by the late Ira Stewart, Esq., and now in possession of his sons. In the summer of 1773, and previous to his survey, Blodget had settled on this lot, near the creek. The principal travel at that time was on the creek, by boats and rafts in the summer, and on the ice in the winter. His object in locating himself in this place, was to provide refreshment and rest for travellers. He built his cabin on the rising ground a little west of the creek, near where the present house stands. He had also a shanty near the creek to accommodate temporary travellers, when it was not overflowed, as was common in high freshets. His house was the point, to which all travellers to and from Cornwall and the vicinity aimed.

He continued in this place until the war and until most of the inhabitants had left.

Dr. Merrill says, "Before the revolutionary war, Penuel Stevens settled on a strip of land near Otter Creek, south of Blodget, and north of Flat Brook." We have no further information of this man. He could not have owned land there, and he did not return after the war. Mr. Russell Vallett, who recently owned this land, says there is evidence of a former settlement there, about fifty rods above Blodget's pitch, and one hundred rods north of Flat Brook, on a small piece of land on the bank of the creek, which is not overflowed by freshets. Some remains of the foundation of a house and cornhills are found there, and the trees growing round it, when he purchased, were smaller than those of the surrounding forests. The small timber on about thirty acres, somewhat higher than the surrounding swamp, and about fifty rods from the creek, he thinks evidence of a former clearing.

Theophilus Allen, before the war—probably in 1773, settled on an eighty acre lot next north of Blodget's farm. We find no record of the lands on which he settled until after the war. He subsequently pitched the lot on which he lived; and the hundred acre lot, on which his brother David Allen afterwards settled, and both on the right of Nathan Benton.

James Bentley, Jr., previous to the war, settled on a hundred and fifty acre lot, a part of which is now owned by Mr. Warren Moore, and built a small house, near the house in which Mr. Moore lives.

Thomas Bentley settled on a lot lying south and east of the above, and running to the creek, which is the farm since owned successively by Asa Harris and Hon. S. S. Phelps, and now by Marshal T. Shacket. His house was near the present dwelling house. What title he had at that time we are not able to ascertain. But after the war in 1786, he made a pitch of two hundred and twenty-two acres, extending from the Creek west to William Douglass's land, including this farm. Bentley returned after the war and continued in possession of his farm until 1793, when he sold it to Hezekiah Wadsworth, and removed from the country.

Next south of Thomas Bentley, William Douglass settled near the house in which his son James Douglass, and his grand son of the same name have since resided, and which was owned by the late Dr. Ford of Cornwall, and now by his son, Charles R. Ford.

Joseph Throop, from Whiting, in 1774 settled on a lot next south and east of Douglass and running to the creek, on the ground where Dan Throop, his son, afterwards lived, and which has since been owned by Johathan Hagar, Esq., and occupied by Joseph Stearns. The same lot was recently owned and occupied by Abijah Hurd, and has lately been purchased by Gardner and Isaac Eells. Joseph Throop also owned the lot south of the above, on which his son Samuel resided, and which now belongs to the farm purchased by Eells of Hurd. In the spring of 1843, Alvah English resided on this farm, which he had owned and occupied for several years. He owned also a lot on the creek. In a great freshet which occurred at that time, the low lands were overflowed, his fences were swept away and the rails were floating on the water. In order to collect and save these he built a raft of rails, at the bend of the creek, near the foundation of the house, where James Bentley, and afterwards Samuel Benton resided before the war, took on his son, ten or twelve years old, and attempted to go in pursuit of his floating rails. Not being able to guide his raft it was drawn into the current and parted in the eddy, and he and his son fell into the creek and were drowned, on the 20th day of April of that year. He was in his forty-fifth year. The body of his son was never recovered.

In 1774 James Bentley, senior, had settled and resided on the bank of the creek, about five rods south of Throop's line at the bend of the creek, about two miles south of the village. In the year following he lived in a house on the north part of the Bentley pitch in Middlebury.

Col. Samuel Benton, who owned considerable land in other parts of Cornwall, in 1775, established his residence on the bank of the creek at the same place and probably in the same house which had been occupied by James Bentley, and which, for want of a title or otherwise, he had left. The foundation of this house, some

currant bushes, and other signs of a residence were to be seen, until they were removed by the construction of the rail-road.

These were all the settlers on this tract before the war.

In 1783 Asa Blodget returned to his former possession, and continued it until 1795, when he sold it to Anthony Rhodes, from whom it has passed through several hands to its present owners.

Theophilus Allen, at the close of the war also returned and went into possession of his former lot, and resided on it until 1797, when he deeded it to Joshua Henshaw, from New Hartford, Conn. Mr. Henshaw's first settlement in this town was at this place, where he resided until he removed to the village in 1800. It is now as it has been for many years, occupied by Silas Piper and his son Silas Piper, Jr.

William Douglass, in the fall of 1783, returned to his farm with two young sons, for the purpose of making preparation for the return of his family. On the 19th of December of that year he went into the forest to cut wood and was instantly killed by the fall of a tree. On a monument erected at his grave on the rising ground southerly from his house is the following inscription :

“Mr. William Douglass, born June 22, 1735, was killed instantly by the fall of a tree, December 19, 1783.

Here life and all its pleasures end,
Here mourners wander, read and weep ;
Soon each succeeds his fallen friend,
And in the same cold earth must sleep.

Mr. Douglass, his widow and children owned several tracts adjoining his home farm, occupied at different times by different members of his family, including Orange Throop, his son-in-law. James Douglass was the last of his sons, who occupied the homestead after the death of the widow. He went to the south in 1822, where his daughter was teaching, and died there. His widow and father-in-law James Bentley continued to reside there with his son, until their several deaths, and his son afterwards sold the farm and moved to the west.

Joseph Throop, when he returned after the war, went into possession of his farm, but died twelve or fourteen years after, and

his widow married Eleazar Davis. Davis and his wife continued in possession for a time, and in 1796 gave a deed of the two lots above mentioned to her sons Dan and Samuel Throop, who occupied the premises as before stated.

Col. Samuel Benton did not occupy his house on the bank of the creek after the war, but resided elsewhere in Cornwall.

James Bentley senior, after the war, built him a house on the bank of the creek near the house of Hop. Johnson, mentioned elsewhere, and after Johnson deserted his family in 1789 Bentley lived with his daughter Mrs. Johnson. She was soon after married to James Douglass, and Bentley lived with them for some years on the ridge south of Davenport's new house, until they removed together to the Douglass farm, as mentioned above. James Bentley, senior, died in 1829, at the age of ninety-three years.

James Bentley Jr., returned to his farm after the war, and remained on it for some years. In 1788, he deeded fifty acres to William Donaghy, who built a house southerly from Bentley's, on a road then open, leading from James Bentley's to Thomas Bentley's. On this lot Donaghy resided until 1795, when he sold it to Thomas and Ep. Spencer, who were in possession for twelve or fifteen years, and sold it to Dr. Willard and Ethan Andrus. The Spencers were succeeded in the possession of the house by Julius Wilcox. A part of the land deeded to Willard on which the house stood, is annexed to the farm of Warren Moore. Harvey Wilcox, son of Julius Wilcox, now residing in the village on the Cornwall road, purchased a piece of land and moved to it the old house in which his father lived, and resided there until 1830. In 1831, Harvey Pritchard purchased this and other adjoining lands—has repaired the house and still lives there.

In the year 1788, Capt. Samuel Wright, then of Weybridge, purchased several pieces of land south of the Douglass farm and west of the Throop lot, and among others a small piece of Thomas Bentley, on which he erected a house, now occupied by Julius Douglass, who owns the farm. In this place he resided until his death in December 1818, at the age of eighty-two years. By his will he provided for the support of his widow, and her daughter

by a former husband, during their lives, and gave the remainder to the Congregational Society. The amount remaining to the Society is about seven hundred dollars. His widow, Esther Wright died in 1840, aged eighty-eight years.

In the year 1791 Thomas Bentley deeded to Andrew Nichols a tract of eighty-nine acres on the north side of his two hundred and twenty-two acre pitch, extending west from the creek, on which he resided for some time, and it was called his "home lot." Not many years since there were on this lot an old log house and a plank house, probably built by him, a short distance north of the former residence of Thomas Bentley, now owned by Shackett.

In 1793 Bentley deeded to Luther Wright, of Swanzy, N. H., a tract on the south side of his pitch, extending west from the creek to the land of Capt. Samuel Wright. Wright occupied this as his home farm for some time: but while carrying it on it is understood that he lived with his uncle, Samuel Wright, and built no house on his land. No person, as owner of either of these lots has since resided on them. Both lots are now owned by James McDonald, Esq.

David Allen, a brother of Theophilus Allen, after the war settled on the farm next north of his brother, now owned by Alfred Stowell. He continued his residence here until the year 1805, when he died at the age of forty-three years. His widow, after his death, was married to Elijah Keeler, and they remained in possession of the farm during their lives.

Previous to the year 1796, Francis Garrett settled on a lot of ninety-two acres, next north of the home farm of David Allen, built a log house and resided on it until 1803, when he deeded it to Daniel and William Campbell. The title has since passed through several hands. The tract between the creek and the road was formerly owned by Asa Harris, and during that time his son built a house and resided in it for some time. The house has since been removed, and the land is now owned by Marshall T. Shackett. On the west of the road, John Stearns, son of Joseph Stearns, built a house and resided a few rods south of the barn belonging to Shackett. This tract is now owned by Jacob W. Conroe, Esq., and the house is occupied by a tenant.

CHAPTER IV.

RETREAT OF THE SETTLERS—EMPLOYMENT IN THEIR ABSENCE—
OTHER EVENTS DURING THE WAR—MISS TORRANCE'S STORY—
JUDGE PAINTER—COL. CHIPMAN.

AFTER the retreat of the American army in June 1776, from the disastrous expedition into Canada, the inhabitants of this and the neighboring towns were somewhat exposed to depredation from scouting parties of British, Tories and Indians, and especially after the defeat of the American fleet under Arnold, in October following. And it is not improbable, that some of the more timid families retreated from the country during that season. But they were vastly more exposed, the following year, when Burgoyne, with his formidable army sailed up the lake, dispersing every form of opposition. For this reason we have been forced into no little incredulity as to the exact correctness of the following statement of Dr. Merrill. He says—"Agreeably to advice from head quarters of our army at Ticonderoga, all the inhabitants of Middlebury and Cornwall, except Daniel Foot and Benjamin Smalley, removed in June 1776. Some of them on the Cornwall side of the river did not leave one extreme of their farms, till the Indians in search of booty were lurking in the other. Foot and Smalley after being pillaged of most of their moveable property, abandoned their homes in September of the same year. These two individuals however, with their families, returned in the following winter and remained until the spring of 1778." This is a representation of events which might be supposed to have existed in June of the year following. But the histories of that period do not furnish any adequate reason for such general alarm and sudden retreat in June 1776. The last of

the American troops did not leave St. Johns until the 1st of June. From the reduced and exhausted state of the army, it was decided to relinquish Crown Point and concentrate the whole army at Ticonderoga: but they did not leave the former place until after the 12th of July, and retained possession of Ticonderoga until driven from it by Burgoyne's army on the 6th of July of the following year. The American Navy had the control of the lake until the British had constructed their fleet and defeated the former in October. Until this time the British had no organized force south of Canada, and their fleet, which then came out, remained only about a month, and returned to Canada with their whole force, without attacking the American fortifications at Ticonderoga. There were, at the time of the invasion of Burgoyne in 1777, American families at Crown Point and on the opposite shore in Addison, Bridport and Panton, who for the first time fled on the approach of the Indians so near, that they hardly escaped with the utmost haste. At the time of the evacuation of Ticonderoga, on the 6th of July of that year, the Convention engaged in forming the first constitution of the State were thrown into a state of excitement and disorder because the families of some of the western members were exposed by the invasion. After this, and perhaps before, foraging and scouting parties, composed of British, Tories and Indians, were often roaming through the country to obtain supplies, who stole and carried away every moveable thing they could lay their hands on, but there was no general destruction of property or capture of prisoners until the fall of 1778. Even at this time, there were residents in several of the neighboring towns who were taken prisoners and sent into Canada.

By the records of Cornwall, it appears that Judge Painter surveyed a lot of land in that town on the 11th of April, 1777, which was entered of record the same day, but was recorded afterwards. The records of that town previous to February 1778 being burnt furnish no farther evidence previous to that time. At the meeting of the proprietors held in that town on the 14th and 15th of April 1778, much important business was transacted relating to their lands. But we are not able to call to our aid any

living witnesses or records in Middlebury to offset against the better testimony which Dr. Merrill had an opportunity to obtain.

Whatever the correct date of the retreat may be, it is true that on a sudden alarm most of the settlers fled from the country in great haste. The privations and hardships of their recent settlement in the wilderness were sufficiently appalling, but were fearfully aggravated by their being so suddenly banished from their homes into exile by the ravages of war. It is to be regretted that some one did not, before it was too late, collect from the sufferers the stories of their trials. Philip Battell, Esq., more thoughtful than others, several years ago collected some facts from a few individuals since dead. These, with such others as we have been able to obtain from other sources, we intersperse with our narrative.

Miss Olive Torrance, daughter of Robert Torrance, whom we have mentioned as a settler, is the only witness who had any knowledge of the events before the war, or during the retreat. The following is a part of her story as reported by Mr. Battell:

Her father, she says, came to this country from Ireland in 1754, when he was eighteen years old. He became a resident of Woodbury, Conn., and married Sally Peck, of that place. He removed to Middlebury with his family, with the first parties in 1774. They descended Otter Creek on a boat or raft, and made their beginning in a log house, which he had built on the spot where the family still live. She was then five years old.

The retreat from the country occurred three years after, upon the invasion of Burgoyne. She thinks the removal was in August; it might have been in June or early in July. Her mother went out, before they left, among the garden vines, which were numerous and promising, regretting to leave them. The state of apprehension had been previously such that one Evarts, belonging to that neighborhood, and then in a company at Ticonderoga, arriving and visiting at their house early in the morning, produced great agitation among them. As a further alarm was to be given, the men, before hoeing was finished, turned out and dug out six bass-wood canoes near the river, and decided not to go until further notice, when all were to be in readiness. When the final message

came their goods were taken to the river, the raft constructed, on which the women and children were placed, and the journey commenced, Otter Creek being again their common highway. The party landed at Pittsford, where there was a military post, and Mrs. Torrance followed the train of women and children towards the settlement. She was carrying a child two years old in a sort of double-gown, brought over her shoulders, and in this plight saw a regiment of soldiers drawn up in front of her. She sat down by the way on a log and wept. A neighbor, Mr. Boardman, coming up on a horse, carrying an ox yoke behind him, insisted on laying off his yoke and taking her instead, bidding her not be down-hearted, but expect that things would turn out better than she feared. As they passed the regiment, the Colonel recognized her and called out, "My God, there's Sally Peck. It makes a man's eyes run to see you brought to this." The soldiers, at his instance gave up their quarters to the women and children, brought them water for their washing and cooking, and made them as comfortable as possible under the circumstances. Many of them knew Mrs. Torrance as their towns-woman, and sympathized with her and felt for the distresses of the people. Miss Torrance's father joined his family the next day, bringing with him his stock of cattle. From this place the family went to Rutland, and from that place communicated with a brother-in-law in Richmond, Mass., who came on with horses for their party. The family was under the protection of an uncle in Litchfield for a time, and then joined her father, who was then employed, during the war, in one of the furnaces in Salisbury, casting ordnance for the army. He was absent eight years. He was employed seven years in the furnace, the eighth he took a farm. His cow he had sold on his flight at Rutland, his oxen in Connecticut. These were replaced by the produce of a cow bought in Salisbury, which, by letting, had multiplied with her issue to twenty-one, having but a single male in the number.

The first child born in town, as Miss Torrance thinks, was with them on the raft. This was Hannah Bentley, the only infant among fifteen or sixteen children, and of course much noticed among them. Mr. Slasson, whose child is said by Dr. Merrill to

have been the first born in town. lived in the immediate neighborhood of the Torrance family, after they came to town, and she is certain had no child born there.

The first school-house was built of logs, before the retreat of the settlers on "Tallow Hill," on the road leading from the poor house to Jonathan Seeley's. Eunice Keep, daughter of Samuel Keep, the first clerk of the proprietors, was brought from Crown Point, where the family then resided, to teach in it. She had commenced her school, but left on the alarm. Miss Torrance had not begun to attend. After their return, a school, the second in town, was kept by Mrs. Torrance, in their own neighborhood.

Some kinds of provisions were left concealed by the inhabitants, on their retreat. Sugar and flour, left by her family, she says, were taken from their storage, under the floor and consumed. Their pewter, and other articles, buried for safe keeping, were also taken up and appropriated. The house itself suffered no injury, except, as she thinks, from a party of immigrants, who had it for a shelter some cold nights, and took a board from the chamber floor for kindling wood. Otherwise they found it as they left it.

The Story and Smalley families remained through the war. Mrs. Story's cave, on the bank of the creek in Salisbury. Miss Torrance supposed to have been intended for a storehouse for goods only, rather than for the concealment of individuals. Mrs. Smalley told her of a visit from a scouting party of the enemy, chiefly Indians. An Indian took a milk-skimmer she was using and put it in his bosom. On which she complained to the commander, who compelled him to restore it. A part of the Foot family staid at John Foot's to secure the crops. They visited her mother's garden after the family had gone, and found the melons ripened by thousands. Thus far Miss Torrance.

It is represented by all, that the flight of the inhabitants was sudden and made in great haste. It was the common practice to dig into the ground, and conceal such articles as they could not carry with them. The family of Daniel Foot, before they left, dug into the ground, in a thick hemlock grove, and built a large crib with poles, into which they put a half barrel of soap, such

part of the furniture and other articles as they were compelled to leave, covered the crib with plank, and on the top of the whole piled hemlock branches, so as to resemble a large brush heap. On their return, after the war, they found their soap and other articles uninjured. Mr. Allen Foot, a grandson of Daniel Foot, has now in his possession a chest, which was thus preserved. A case of drawers, preserved in the same way, still remains in the possession of some of the relatives.

Mrs. Loomis, daughter of Col. John Chipman and wife of Horace Loomis Esq., of Burlington, represents, that her family fled in great haste, and, like the other inhabitants, buried such articles of value, as they could not in their haste take with them. She showed us a small looking glass, which was thus preserved. The frame was rotted off, and it has since been put into a rough frame, apparently "whittled out" with a jack knife.

William Douglass, before he left, concealed the family articles in the same way, but his family not returning until after he was killed, the place of deposit was never discovered by them.

While the British had control of the lake, probably in 1777, foraging and scouting parties, composed chiefly of Indians, made excursions into the several towns, appropriating to themselves such moveable property, as suited them belonging to those, who had left, or in the possession of those who remained. Daniel Foot had remained for some time after the settlers had generally left. A British party sent out to obtain supplies, came upon him, seized and drove off his oxen, while he kept out of the way to avoid being captured. Other similar depredations were made. Several other persons remained in the different towns, without other molestation, until the fall of 1778.

In the fall of that year, two British vessels came up the lake with troops, designed it was said, to march upon Rutland; but being, in some way, thwarted in their purpose, the troops consisting of British, tories and Indians, were landed on both sides of the lake, and spread themselves, in scouting parties, over the whole region, where settlers had located themselves. They destroyed all the buildings and other property they could find, and made prisoners

of all the men, who had had the temerity to remain, and sent them to Canada. In Middlebury, the whole population by this time had retreated, and none were taken prisoners. But all the buildings in the town were destroyed, except the houses of Joshua Hyde, Bill Thayer and Robert Torrance, in the same neighborhood, in the south part of the town, to which probably their excursion did not extend. The frame of a barn of Col. John Chipman, recently built of green timber, which they could neither burn or chop down, also escaped. It is still standing on the farm of Jonathan Seeley, with marks of the hatchets on its timbers.

Judge Painter, although driven from his home, like the others, did not immediately leave the State, but remained for a time to watch the movements of the enemy, as well as of the New York claimants, and to aid by his co-operation and advice, in measures to thwart the purposes of both. He was acquainted with Ethan Allen, in Salisbury, the common residence of both, before either came into Vermont, and was intimately associated with him, Seth Warner and Remembrance Baker in their movements. He did not leave the State, until the British forces under Burgoyne, had obtained such extensive and dangerous control over all Western Vermont, that he was forced for safety to cross the mountain by Onion River, and went south on the east side of the State. While living, he related to his friends many anecdotes of his adventures: but many of them are forgotten, especially in their dates and details. He was intimate with Hon. Horatio Seymour, in the later period of his life, and freely communicated to him many of the events of his life. Mr. Seymour relates the following:

While the British were in possession of Crown Point, probably in 1777, Judge Painter, in a feigned character, several times visited that post as a spy, to ascertain the condition and plans of the British troops. The last time he went, he feigned the character of a half idiot, and took with him a basket, with a little butter and a few eggs, and other small articles to sell to the soldiers. He pretended to belong to a family of poor settlers, who needed the proceeds of his articles for their support, as was indicated by his own dress. The under officers had been charged to arrest every suspi-

cious person, who appeared, and bring him before the commanding officer. When Painter arrived at Chimney Point opposite the fort, and had made known his wishes, he was put into a boat with some British officers and soldiers, as he supposed, to go to the fort. When he went on board, he threw himself down on the boat, and began to examine his articles for sale, and talk with himself about his treasures, and to calculate the proceeds of his traffic. His articles were kept in separate parcels, and, as he was soliloquizing, he said, this butter is mother's, so many pounds at such a price will bring so much; these eggs are sister Sussey's, so many and I shall get so much money for Sussey. It is claimed only, that this is the character and purport of his words. Instead of going directly to the fort, he soon discovered, that the boat was directed towards a vessel lying in the lake, on which the superior officers were, and where they were taking him for examination. He became alarmed. He was then in the power of the enemy, and it would be easy for them to prove that the history he had given of himself was false. But he continued his soliloquy and feigned manners. After a time, one of the officers watching him said to another,—“This is a perfect idiot, it is not best for us to take him up there. I should be ashamed to take such a fellow there.” The other officer assented to this view, and after a further consultation, they directed to change the course of the boat for the fort. After going on shore, Painter finished his traffic with the soldiers as soon as possible, and left them with a determination never to put himself in so hazardous a position again.

The following anecdote is recorded chiefly because it illustrates the character of Judge Painter, as well as that of the times, in which he lived. Having occasion to go the south,—probably when he attended the convention in Dorset, in July 1776,—he passed through Clarendon. Here was located a nest of tories. As he was drawing near he met two or three men on horseback, whom he suspected to be of that class. In order to avoid a suspicion of his own character, he inquired of them, “Can you tell me where Esq. S— lives?” as though he was his friend. This Esq. S— was the leader of the tories, and his house their place of rendezvous. The men

gave him the information asked of them and he passed on unmolested.

Judge Painter was a delegate from Middlebury to a convention of members from the west side of the mountain. The convention was called by a circular sent to the several towns, to consider the delicate and difficult position of the "New Hampshire Grants." The congress of the United States had made their declaration of independence, and left the Grants without any government, except by submission to the government of New York, to which that body had advised, and to which the Green Mountain Boys made a determined opposition. The convention was held at Dorset, on the 24th of July 1776, and adjourned to the 25th of September following. At this time delegates were present from both sides of the mountain, and it was "resolved to take measures, as soon as may be, to declare the New Hampshire Grants a free and separate district." Judge Painter was also a member of the convention, on the 2d of July 1777, which formed the constitution of the State.

In the revolutionary war, he "held a captain's commission and served in the quartermaster's department." We have no details of his service.

Col. John Chipman was also extensively engaged in the war of the revolution. We copy the following summary of his services from a paper left by him in his own hand writing, and preserved by his daughter, Mrs. Loomis.

"I turned out the commencement of the war, as a volunteer with Colonel Ethan Allen, in the spring of 1775, to take Ticonderoga and Crown Point. In May or June I received a second lieutenant's commission in Capt. Grant's company, Colonel Seth Warner's regiment, went into Canada, was at the taking of St. Johns and Montreal; was discharged at Montreal, and returned home the first part of December. In the summer of 1776, I received a first lieutenant's commission, in Capt. Smith's company, Seth Warner's regiment, and joined the army at Ticonderoga, in March 1777. I was in the retreat with the army, and was in the battle of Hubbardton. I was also in the battle of Bennington so called, on the 16th of August of that year, and was at Saratoga at the taking of Bur-

goyne in October. We were ordered to Fort Edward and Fort George in 1778 and 1779. I was promoted to a captain, and served in that capacity until October 1780, when I was taken prisoner, at Fort George. I remained in this situation until the summer of 1781, when I was exchanged and remained a supernumerary until the close of the war."

Col. Chipman had the command of Fort Edward and Fort George successively, and was in command of the latter, at the time of the capture of the garrison. Not suspecting the enemy was in the neighborhood, he had sent out a large portion of his troops, on scouting parties, which left him a force of only sixty or seventy men. In this condition he found himself surrounded by an overwhelming force and the garrison was forced to surrender. After he was exchanged in 1781 he was raised to the rank of major. While he was in the command of these forts, in a comparatively settled state, Mrs. Chipman remained with him. After the close of the war, Col. Chipman retained in his possession the orderly book, containing a record of general orders, court martials and other proceedings of the garrison, and when he was appointed clerk of the proprietors, the book, not being filled up, was used by him for the record of surveys. After his death, Mrs. Loomis, understanding the fact, procured that part containing the proprietors' records to be taken out and re-bound, leaving the orderly book by itself, which she still retains. This she kindly showed us, and we regret that we had not time more thoroughly to examine it. Among the records was an order for a court-martial, signed by Col. Warner, supposed to be in his own hand-writing.

CHAPTER V.

RETURN OF SETTLERS—SMALLEY—THAYER — JONA. CHIPMAN —
TORRANCE—COL. CHIPMAN—FOOT FAMILY.

After the war had closed in 1763, the former settlers gradually returned to their possessions in Middlebury. Benjamin Smalley, Bill Thayer and Jonathan Chipman returned with their families in April of that year, and took possession of the lands they had left. Joshua Hyde came also himself, and labored that season on the land he had before occupied, leaving his family in Salisbury until the following year, and during the time boarded in the family of of Bill Thayer. Daniel Foot came also with his sons Philip, Freeman, Martin, Stillman and John, leaving his wife behind until the next year.

In the year 1784, Gamaliel Painter, John Chipman and Robert Torrance returned with their families and resumed possession of the lands, from which they had fled at the commencement of the war.

Bill Thayer continued his possession of that part of the Slassen pitch on which he had before settled, and occupied that and home lot 34, adjoining it, as his farm until 1793, when he sold it to Eber Everts. About that time he removed to New Haven and settled on a farm on New Haven River.

Jonathan Chipman continued on the farm on which he first settled until January 1790, when he sold it to Col. Chipman and left town.

Benjamin Smalley, on his two hundred acre pitch, which he still occupied as his home farm, soon replaced his log cabin with a comfortable frame house. His first wife, Martha Smalley, died in September 1792, and he was afterwards married to widow Story,

so celebrated in history and romance, the early death of whose husband had left her to contend with the perils of the wilderness and war alone. She survived her new husband and was afterwards married, in the old age of both, to Capt. Stephen Goodrich. Mr. Smalley, in 1792 deeded to his son Imri a part of his farm, including his house and other buildings, and in 1794 the remainder to his son Alfred Smalley. The father continued to reside with his son Imri until his death, which occurred in 1807, at the age of 82 years. His son continued to occupy the premises for several years and then removed to the west. William Huntington succeeded him, and he was succeeded by Michael Sanders. The farm is now owned by Michael Ryan, a son-in-law of Mr. Sanders. In 1803 the share of Alfred Smalley was purchased by Peter Foster, a respectable citizen and active christain, who resided on it in a one story house until his death. He died of the prevailing epidemic in December 1812, at the age of fifty-one years. His son, Col. Nathaniel Foster, succeeded him in the possession for several years. Mr. Sanders afterwards owning this lot, built the present large two story house. It is now owned by Gen. Nash, of New Haven.

Robert Torrance renewed his residence on home lot No. 23, where he had made a beginning before the war. Here he built the brick house, which is still standing, which he continued to occupy until his death in 1816, at the age of eighty. His daughters, Olive and Molly, and his grand son, Orleans Torrance continued the possession. The daughters have both died, Olive in 1850, at the age of 84, and Molly May 13, 1857, aged 76, and the grand son alone remains. The northern of his three lots was set off to his son Silas Torrance, and had not been cleared until about the year 1823, when Noah Stearns commenced a clearing and settlement on the west half, and Justus Hier on the east half. The whole is now owned by Chester Fenn, or his son James Fenn, both of whom reside on it. Of the return of Mr. Torrance and other reminiscences of his daughter Olive, we continue her statement made to Mr. Battell. At the time of their return she was the eldest of the children. They drove from Salisbury seven cows and ten sheep. They came in a sleigh and were six days in making the journey,

stopping one at Richmond. At Pittsford they took the creek, and reached home at night.

Miss Torrance was now old enough intelligently to witness and appreciate the commencement of society in a new world. Other families had returned, and the settlers began to enjoy that Arcadian period in their history, when they have an abundance and all are upon the same level, and constitute one family. Religious services were held on the Sabbath at Jonathan Chipman's, and Mr. Chipman and Benjamin Smalley made the prayers, and Col. John Chipman read the sermon. Mr. Collins was the first preacher, and after him a Mr. Bliss.

In the time of harvest, all the neighbors united and assisted each other in the labor of getting it in. They met at the place appointed, and the women came with them. While the men were employed in the field, gathering the crops, the women were engaged in preparing the feast for dinner, and spreading it out on the long board table, around which men and women gathered to satisfy their appetites from its abundance, when they all departed without spending the evening. They had no spirits in their harvests, but used beer. And Miss Torrance says, "we had a quiet township of people till Jabez Rogers built his still house." After awhile the gaieties of the new country commenced, and at the balls, which were occasionally held, the young people, from the whole region around, were collected, especially in Court time.

Miss Torrance, at the time of this communication, had in her possession, the first table made in town of the description above mentioned. It was made for Miss Melissa Stevens, daughter of Capt. Stevens, then about to be married. When she removed from town, Mr. Torrance bought it and left it to her.

The mother of Miss Torrance died in 1798, and her father in 1816. At the time of this communication the two daughters and grand son constituted the family and occupied the homestead. The farm consisted originally of three hundred acres; but part having been set off to the sons, only 140 acres remained. The land Miss Torrance says, is good, but an orchard never succeeded on it. She and her sister Rhoda spun thirty-nine runs of yarn at eight

pence a run, and bought thirty-nine apple trees at the same price, but only one of them lived. Her father said the land would never bear an orchard, on this intervale. They had, she said, enough and wanted no more to take care of.

Mr. Torrance was a worthy and honest man, was out in various capacities in the French war, and it is supposed, with the Green Mountain Boys under Ethan Allen. They were probably acquainted before they came to this country, for they were special friends in after life, and had exchanged guns and powder flasks. "The former," Mr. Battell says, "I saw, which the good ladies preserve with religious care—a long duck piece, hanging up loaded in a spirit not unworthy of a token of the hero of the Grants."

Joshua Hyde having purchased of James Owen his fifty acres on the Slasson pitch, lying west of and adjoining home lots 35 and 36, which he also owned, settled on these a year or two after the war, and occupied them as his home farm. On the Slasson pitch, he built the two story house still standing, and resided in it until his death, which took place in the year 1828, at the age of seventy-eight. After his death, his son Joshua Hyde, Jun., who had always resided with him, continued in possession until his death in 1848, at the age of seventy-five. After that event, Luman Hyde, his son, continued in possession until recently he sold it to Hiram Sessions, who has now the possession.

Oliver Hyde, another son of Joshua Hyde, Jun., about the year 1831, received a deed of one hundred acres of the Skeel pitch, and for the accommodation of his residence, purchased of Mr. Champlin a small piece from home lot 38, on the east side of the road opposite his farm, and built there a house, in which he resided until within a short time he has sold his farm to his brother Luman, who is now in possession of it. It was on this lot, that Joshua Hyde, senior, first settled in 1774, and the foundation of his house is still to be seen there.

Joshua Hyde, senior, was one of the most prominent and useful citizens in Middlebury. While he was in active life, and even until an advanced age, no man occupied so often the office of selectman and other places of trust in the town; and no man better understood

the prudential and financial interests of the town, or more faithfully and economically managed them. He was, for several years, elected a representative in the legislature.

Simeon Chandler, after the war, resumed his possession of home lots 37 and 38, on which he had before settled, and continued to reside on this farm, until he sold to Joshua Hyde in 1798 the west end of both lots, and removed to the north part of the State. Mr. Hyde gave this land to Paul Champlin, Esq., who married his daughter. Mr. Champlin continued to occupy it until his death, which took place in 1853, at the age of seventy-nine. It is still the residence of his widow, to whom we are indebted for several facts relating to the early settlement.

Col. John Chipman, after his return, went to work in earnest for the improvement of his farm, and soon his fertile fields were cleared and produced an abundance of the comforts and even luxuries of life. He built on the ground, where his first cabin stood, a handsome brick house, in which he resided with his family many years. His house was opened for the entertainment of travellers coming into the country, and being four or five miles distant, was often the resort of parties from the village at the falls. The smooth road on the bank of the creek, lined on both sides with forest trees and shrubs, and the hospitable dwelling and inmates at the end, rendered it a favorite ride, especially for the young, and was, not inappropriately, called "Love Lane."

Col. Chipman was a prompt, active and efficient man, of commanding person and address, with talents and manners, which peculiarly fitted him for an executive officer. He was elected sheriff of the County for twelve years, from 1789 to 1801. He was also much of the time moderator of town meetings, and selectman and held other offices of trust in town. He continued in possession of his farm, until the marriage of his daughter, Mary Chipman, who had been the light and life of his dwelling, to Horace Loomis, Esq., of Burlington, in 1805, and the death of his wife in 1810, at the age of fifty-eight, left him alone. In his advanced age, he made his home in the family of Freedom Loomis and his son George C. Loomis, in the neighborhood of his farm. He died in 1829 at the age

of eighty-four years. The farm was afterwards purchased by William Y. Ripley, Esq. While in his possession, the brick house built by Col. Chipman was burnt, and he erected the present handsome house, with its appendages. Mr. Ripley afterwards removed to Rutland, where he still resides. It is now occupied by Mr. Jonathan Seeley. Mrs. Julia C. R. Dorr, daughter of Mr. Ripley, has made this residence and neighborhood the scene of her well written novel, "Farmingdale."

Col. Chipman's family was connected with several others, which are more or less noticed in our history: some account of which we propose to place together here to save the necessity of a more distinct notice elsewhere. Col. Chipman's father was John Chipman, who was a brother of Thomas Chipman an original proprietor, of Jonathan Chipman an early settler, and of Samuel Chipman, the father of Hon. Daniel Chipman. Col. Chipman's father died early, leaving two sons, John and Thomas and three daughters, Mrs. Victoria Painter, first wife of Judge Painter, Mrs. Swetland mother of William Swetland, Esq. of Plattsburgh, and Mrs. Mary Vanduzer, wife of Abraham Vanduzer. Thomas Chipman, brother of John, in 1784, settled on a 100 acre pitch of his brother, directly south of the latter's farm. He continued to occupy this farm until 1815, when he sold it and moved out of the State. It is now owned by Locklin Wainwright. The former two story house built by Chipman was burnt, and has been re-built by Mr. Wainwright.

After the death of his father, Col. Chipman's mother was married to Samuel Keep, one of the original proprietors, and their first clerk. They had two daughters, Eunice, who kept the first school in Middlebury, and Hannah. The former was first married to a Mr. Marvin, and, after his death, to John Smith Esq. of Leicester, in this County. Hannah became the wife of Moses Sheldon of Salisbury, Conn., who lived for some time and died in Salisbury in this County. They were the parents of Samuel Sheldon and Oscar Sheldon of that place, of Mrs. Case, wife of Loyal Case Esq., of Mrs. Johnson, widow of the late Austin Johnson, who has recently died, February 18, 1859, aged 65, and of his former wife and of the wife of Samuel Crook.

Samuel Keep lived for a time at Whitehall, and was residing at Crown Point, with his family, when Burgoyne's invasion drove them from their home. In their old age, Mrs. Keep resided with her daughter, Mrs. Vanduzer until her death, and her husband with his daughter, Mrs. Smith, in Leicester. He died in 1802 at the age of 84, and his wife in 1804 at the same age.

In November 1772, Col. Chipman was married to Sarah Washburn, daughter of Abisha Washburn of Salisbury, Conn., of whom notice will be given hereafter. Besides Mrs. Loomis, before mentioned, Mrs. Sally Rogers, wife of Jabez Rogers Jr., was a daughter of this marriage, and died in 1839, aged 64 years. Washburn's other daughters were married as follows: Mercy to Lemuel Bradley, father of Harry Bradley, John Bradley and Miss Bradley of Burlington, Hannah to Abraham Bethrong and Olive to Freedom Loomis. The last two were settled in Middlebury.

Eber Evarts, on his return after the war, resumed his possession of the farm on the north line of Salisbury. On this he resided until he purchased as before mentioned, a part of the Slasson pitch and home lot No. 34. He then sold his farm to Joel Boardman, who still resides on it, and moved to his new purchase. He built the house still standing on the Slasson lot, and resided in it until his death in 1838, at the age of eighty-five. His widow survived him and died in 1841, at the age of eighty-five. Abner Everts, son of Eber, resided with his father, and after his death occupied the farm, and until lately resided in the same house. Recently he has resided with his son-in-law, Frederic Leland, who has built a house near the east end of 34, in the village of East Middlebury.

John Hinman, after his return, entered into possession of the lot on which he had before settled, and continued for a time and sold it to Moses Hale of Rutland. Hale occupied it until about 1797, when he deeded the south half to his son Moses Hale, Jun., and the north half to his son Hial Hale. William Carr, Jun., now owns the south half deeded to Moses Hale Jun., and Zuar Barrows in part Hial Hale's lot.

While the parties were absent during the war, Eleazer Slasson deeded the balance of his two hundred acre pitch to Col. George

Sloan, a son-in-law of Daniel Foot. Sloan, in the spring of 1784, came to Middlebury, and took possession of the land, where Slasson had begun his settlement, and occupied it until the fall of 1793, when he sold it to Abraham Vanduzer, and removed to the village.

Samuel Bentley did not return to Middlebury, but during the war Benjamin Risley had purchased the whole of his two hundred acre pitch, on which Bentley had settled, and in 1784 came to Middlebury, and went into possession of his purchase. He remained in possession just long enough to be appointed moderator of the first town meeting, and in April sold his farm to Asa Fuller, of Rutland, who soon after deeded the north half to his brother Elisha Fuller.

The sons of Daniel Foot, who returned with him in 1783 brought with them a considerable number of cattle, and remained through the succeeding winter to take care of them, and make some further preparations for the family. As they had no hay, or much other fodder, they undertook to winter the cattle on browse. For this purpose they had, during the winter, cut over a considerable tract covered with maple trees; and in the spring they drove their cattle to the swamps for feed. But the cattle became much emaciated and many of them died. But the ground, which they had cut over in the winter, after the brush was burnt, looked so promising that Mr. Foot proposed to plant it with corn, and went to Castleton for the seed. On the 10th of June, they planted their corn among the fallen trees, and had an abundant crop of such rapid growth, that by the 10th of August, the ears were fit for roasting.

Mr. Foot, after the war removed his residence to the southeast corner of No. 6, of the second hundred acre division. He first built a small house south of the large one, which he afterwards built. Previous to the year 1790, he built a large barn, designed for the accommodation of religious and town meetings, and about the year 1793, he built his large house still further north, and lived in it with his family while he remained in town. The dwelling house of his grand son, Allen Foot, constitutes a part only of that house.

Daniel Foot, as before intimated, had purchased large tracts of

land in Middlebury, and it is said that he owned more than a thousand acres before the war. At an early day he deeded to each of his sons, and his daughter, the wife of Enoch Dewey, one or more tracts of land, and in 1801, made a disposition of the remainder and started for Canton, in the State of New York, having a passion for new countries. No roads had then been opened to that place from this direction, so that he went by Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence River, and only just reached his destination when he died. He was a very enterprising man, and perhaps somewhat restless, as was evinced by his former life. The following, copied from "The Foot family, or the descendants of Nathaniel Foot," furnishes some facts of his history and some traits of his character.

"Daniel Foot, born in Simsbury, Conn., April 27, 1724, and son of Daniel Foot, of that town, well sustained some of the remarkable traits in the character of the Foot family,—indomitable perseverance and a strong propensity to pioneer life. He removed from Simsbury about the year 1764, and located himself in what was once called Hartwood, now Washington, Massachusetts, cleared away the forests and made a farm. From thence he removed to Dalton, in the same State, at the foot of Dalton Mountain, purchased a tract of land and brought into cultivation a valuable farm. This farm he subsequently sold to his eldest son, and removed to Middlebury, Ver., where he purchased some five or six hundred acres of wild land, on which he built mills, felled the forests and resided for many years. At the age of eighty, having previously lost his wife, Mr. Foot distributed his property at Middlebury among his children, and about the year 1801, set out to make a new settlement in Canton, in the County of St. Lawrence, State of New York, then a wilderness, whither his son Stillman had removed a short time previous. On his way there through Montreal, he took the small pox, of which he died a few days after his arrival in Canton. He was a man of great industry and energy, and peculiarly fitted for a pioneer in a new country. He could never be contented on a well cultivated farm. There must be forests to subdue, and new dwellings to erect, or it was no place

for him; and at last he died in the woods, and for lack of boards for a coffin was laid in bark from an elm tree."

Mr. Foot had purchased in Middlebury, probably twice the amount of land mentioned in the quotation, and principally in the neighborhood where he settled. He had set his heart upon making the handsome tract between his residence and that of his son Philip Foot the centre of business for the town, and the location for the meeting house. It was near the centre and the "town plat," located by the Committee was regarded as unsuitable. A large number of second hundred acre lots met here and were bounded on the west end of the home lots. The town and religious meetings were held here for many years, while the town was settling. But after the village, at the falls, had increased in its population and business, intimations were given of the claims of the village to be made the centre; and soon their strength became sufficient to control the majority, and the matter was settled against the claims of Mr. Foot and his neighbors. In this controversy Mr. Foot evinced, as in all his other enterprises, his constitutional energy and decision. But amidst it all he was regarded as a conscientious and respectable man. The enterprize and energy of the Foot family were of great service in the settlement and organization of the town.

Philip Foot, eldest son of Daniel Foot, having been married during the war returned to the farm, where he had commenced a clearing before the war, and continued to cultivate it as his home farm until his death. He built on the northwest corner of No. 7, the two-story house now standing, and resided in it during his life. He died in 1827 at the age of 75 years. The house and a part of the farm belonged to the estate of E. W. Lyons, and has been recently purchased by Mr. Eli Parker, a mechanic from the village. William Foot, a son of Philip also owns a part, and lives in a house just south of the other.

Martin Foot, another son, early settled on home lots 65 and 66, received from his father. As early as the year 1786, he put up a plank house, in which, with some additions, he lived until his death. He died in 1854, at the age of ninety-two. He had before his

death deeded a part of his farm to his son Deacon Martin N. Foot, who built the two-story house in which he lived and died. It is now occupied by his son-in-law Joseph W. Boyce. The house and farm, left by Martin Foot, is owned by Marquis L. Branch, son of his last wife.

Freeman Foot, another son of Daniel Foot, was in possession of the south half of Hyde's 200 acre pitch, as early as 1785; and made some additions, which extended his farm to the creek. In 1786 he built a house just north of the village, near the cellar, built by Ep. Miller, which for several years remained uncovered, and on which Oliver Severance has built a dwelling house. In 1788 he was married to Silence Clark, and took possession of his house, and continued to cultivate his farm until the year 1801. In the fall of that year he sold his farm, except such parts as he had sold for village lots, to Daniel Chipman; and in the following winter or spring removed to the farm which his father had recently left. On this farm he resided until the time of his death, which took place in 1842, at the age of eighty-three; and the farm has since been owned by his son Allen Foot. At the time of his purchase above mentioned, Mr. Chipman deeded to Ep. Miller, that part of the land which lies west of the paper mill road, and to Samuel Mattocks that which lies between that and the New Haven road. The large meadow purchased by Mattocks was owned until recently by Gen. Nash, who has now sold it in parcels to Oliver Severance and three others who have built houses on it.

In the distribution of his lands, by Freeman Foot, among his children in his life time, he gave to Alfred Wainwright, who had married two of his daughters, home lot 59, and No. 6, of the second hundred acre division. The former is now owned by John W. Halladay, and the latter by Timothy Boardman, Jun.

Freeman Foot, about the same time, deeded to his son Clark Foot, with other lands, five or six acres at the corner of the roads on home lot 60, on which the latter built the present house, in which he resided for several years, and afterwards removed to the village, and since to Michigan. The house and lot are now owned by Jonathan and George Smith.

Appleton Foot, youngest son of Daniel Foot, and father of Mrs. Slade, widow of Hon. William Slade, remained on the premises, and after his marriage lived in a small house south of his father's residence, and received from his father a deed of a hundred acres of his home farm. In 1792, he purchased of his brother John the lands and water privileges, which the latter owned on the west side of the falls, in exchange for the lands received from his father. John went into possession of the premises left by Appleton, and superintended the erection of his father's large house. Having completed this object, he removed to New Haven, to the farm of his father-in-law, Bill Thayer, of the whole of which he afterwards became the owner. Here he remained until he removed to East Middlebury in 1811.

Stillman Foot, another son of Daniel Foot and the two last mentioned, will be referred to elsewhere.

The widow of Enoch Dewey, who had begun a clearing before the war, a daughter of Daniel Foot, came into the country after the war, and was married to Roger Nobles of New Haven, with whom her children lived until they were of age. The land which their father owned was divided between them, the daughter taking the home lot, and Stillman, the son, No. 2, of the second hundred acre division. The daughter was married to Jacob Fuller of New Haven, and never took possession of her land, but it was sold and is now divided between several owners. Nathan Carpenter's house lot on which he resided in his life time, * is a part of it, Jonathan Smith owns a part of the same lot, and Jesse Goodno owns and occupies the remainder. Stillman Dewey, the son, after he arrived at full age, in 1793, went into possession of his lot, and remained there until his death in 1841. at the age of sixty-eight years. He built the two story house in which he lived and died. The principal farm is now owned with considerable additions by his son Enoch Dewey, who built another house on the premises, and a son of the latter; both of whom reside on the farm.

* Mr. Carpenter died April 10th, 1858, at the age of 69.

CHAPTER VI.

NEW SETTLERS—STEPHEN GOODRICH—ROBERT HUSTON—BUTTOLPH
—KIRBY—SUMNER—PRESTON AND MUNGERS—SELICK—DEACON
SUMNER—OLMSTEAD—VANDUZER—BARNET—HAMMOND—CRAFT
—LOOMIS.

WILLIAM HOPKINS, who commenced a settlement before the war, on the south half of Oliver Evarts' 200 acre pitch east of the village did not return, but sold his land to Captain Stephen Goodrich, from Glastenbury, Conn. Capt. Goodrich, in the spring of 1784, came on with his two sons, William and Amos, and took possession of his land. The sons remained and worked on the land that season. The spring following the father returned with his family. We have been able to obtain, through Mr. Battell, as before mentioned, the story of Amos Goodrich, communicated in his lifetime, of some incidents attending the settlement, which, with some facts obtained otherwise, we here insert.

Amos Goodrich came from Glastenbury in 1784. His way was by Pawlet, to Hubbardton, and across Hubbardton mountain through Whiting to Middlebury. Hop Johnson had the only dwelling at the village, a sort of shanty on a small scale. He kept a ferry across the creek near where the railroad bridge is. His brother William was with him, and remained and became a citizen of Middlebury. They passed to their lot at Dr. William Bass's, and spent the summer in clearing upon it. The lot was bought the fall before by his father at Manchester, when he was on a journey to examine into his interest in the town of Richford, of which he and other Glastenbury men were proprietors. He had accompanied his father on this journey. William Hopkins had

made an opening on the lot during the summer, and commenced a cabin. When he and his brother came in 1784, Foot was on the Foot street, Chipman and Painter were beginning again in the south west quarter of the town, but only Hop Johnson had a dwelling in the village quarter, on the west bank of the creek, and a Washburn a clearing where he was building a saw mill. They passed their time agreeably in their solitary place. He never was happier. A few strips of bark on the roof above their bed protected them from the rain, and a few slabs of bass-wood logs, set up about them, kept off the wind. Provisions they brought, as they had occasion, from Pawlet, where their father arranged for their supply of pork and flour, with a man who obtained them from Shaftsbury.

Amos Goodrich, soon after coming to town had occasion to go to the falls, and as the paths which he followed were circuitous, he undertook to return by a straight course. The whole region around the falls was a terribly dense hemlock forest. After traveling some time he lost his way and found himself again on the bank of the creek above the falls. Following the creek down to the Falls, he chose to return by the circuitous path, rather than venture himself again in the pathless forest. While his brother was gone to Pawlet for provisions, he had occasion to go again to the falls. The eddy, as it is called, below the Falls, was filled with a compact, immovable mass of flood-wood, which he walked over as on dry land. At the foot of the falls he found an open place, with a flat, white rock at the bottom of the water, covered with trout. He returned to the house, took a hatchel tooth, bent it into a hook, tied it to a tow string, and hooked up the fish by the gills, until he had taken nine large trouts, weighing a pound and a half each, when the remainder fled under the flood-wood. This fact is stated to us by William F. Goodrich, son of Amos, as received from his father.

The same spring, his father, Stephen Goodrich, came up on foot from Glastenbury, the brothers meeting him at Pawlet, and the whole party went to Richford to examine their lands there. They were to meet a surveyor at Chimney Point, where they waited one day, and went on to Burlington. Here again they were detained

waiting for Ira Allen, who was absent in Canada. At that time there was but one log house in Burlington, owned by Capt. Byington, and at the falls only a mill and log house.

In 1785, other farms were commenced about them—Kirby on the lot where he settled, Huston on the northeast, where Hammond lives, Johnson on the east, on the lot where Deacon Matthews lives, Parker on the lot south.* Freeman Foot owned within the village, and built on the New Haven road, near Miller's cellar, perhaps not until the next year. About this time Stillman Foot owned a saw mill on the west side of the falls, and the first road was opened from the mills to Foot street, and west into Cornwall.

Stephen Goodrich, his father, with his mother and sister, came on in 1785, having a cart and oxen, five cows and five or six hogs. The hogs followed the cart, lying under it at night, and were fed with the milk, which was not needed for the family. The son also states, as having learned from his father, that after the family had used what milk they wished, the remainder was put into the churn on the cart, and the motion churned it; and thus the family, on their way, were supplied with butter as well as milk. There were no cattle near them for the first two summers; the third, each of the neighbors had a cow.

The brothers having met the family at Pittsford, they with the cart, were put on board a raft and floated down the creek. The creek became a favorite road in the summer and winter. A boat was built early, which ran weekly to Pittsford and back for passengers and freight. The roads in general were paths only, the bushes being cut away and the trees marked. Such was the road by which the brothers came through Whiting, passing round the swamp nearly into Shoreham. The road from No. 4, (Charleston, N. H.,) to Ticonderoga, crossing the road they travelled, was of the same character.

Hop Johnson's was the point sought by travelers for Middlebury.

* The lot on which Joseph Parker settled, was a fifty acre lot, pitched by Judge Painter, and lying east of his Washburn pitch, on the south side of the road opposite Dr. Bass's. The eastern part of it belongs to the widow of Jonathan Wainwright, as a part of her dower. No residence was long continued on that lot.

His accommodations were scanty. Old Mr. Blodget kept a tavern in the part of Cornwall which is now in Middlebury, very convenient for the travel on the ice, and much frequented.

The bridge over the creek at Middlebury Falls was built by Stillman Foot, logs being laid as abutments, the layers jutting over as they rose, till they extended, Mr. Goodrich thinks, over the water,* leaving but seventy feet span to the trestle. This was crossed by single string-pieces formed of pine trees, and these were covered with poles. It rose about twelve feet above the water. Goodrich, for his share, worked twelve days gratuitously.

The first grain ground, after the family came, Amos Goodrich took to Salisbury. Col. Sawyer had just completed a mill on the falls on Leicester River, at Salisbury Village, and before Foot's mill was finished here. He went by the creek and Leicester River, to within half a mile of the mill, and carried the grain from there on his back.

The first preaching, he says, was by an old gentleman, who came on account of the service of Mr. Foot, a fine man, who read some of his old sermons. Mr. Robbins, now Dr. Robbins of Hartford, came on and was spoken to about settling, but his father advised him, not yet. He was a young man, but "read off his sermons pretty smart." Mr. John Barnet was settled for a time. He was well liked, but left on account of some controversies in the church, perhaps in connection with the difficulties with father Foot.

Mr. Goodrich says they had occasional adventures with the bears, which were troublesome, and ate the corn. The little dog, he says, treed a bear and cub, at one time, on Buttolph's land. Buttolph and his boy and Robert Huston and others came out, but the party had but one gun between them. This Goodrich fired and wounded the bear. She ran to another tree, a pine, going high up and resting upon a stub. He then shot so directly under her from below, that she fell nearly upon him, and he dispatched her with a club. Buttolph then shot the cub in the face, so that it fell, and Goodrich seized it by the neck and hind legs, swung its head

* In this Mr. GOODRICH was mistaken, or Mr. BATTELL misunderstood him. The logs which formed the abutment did not extend over the water.

against the tree and killed it. At another time Kirby found a bear near his house. The dog treed it. John Kirby and Hollister were along. It saw them and sprang down, but the dog pressed it back, and was carried up the tree, hanging to the haunches of the bear, by its mouth. The bear was shot, and both fell together, twenty-five or thirty feet.

Mr. Goodrich, when this communication was made, said he had voted for every representative chosen in town, and for every President from Washington down. Painter was the first representative, then Miller. It was said that the House preferred Miller, who "talked out what he wanted. Painter was one of your long-headed fellows, sly around, but would bring things about. Miller would talk out. Painter would work out of doors and carry his point."

The father and brother of Mr. Goodrich were in the army. He was excused on account of his stammering. His father was Lieutenant in Chester's company at Bunker Hill, and had the same rank, with the command of a company at Saratoga. The captain, on that occasion, being young, and the soldiers refusing to obey him, was displaced. He fought on three days without injury. This was his last service in the militia. His commission at Bunker Hill was from King George; after a few weeks he had one from Washington,* which is still preserved.*

Stephen Goodrich and his son Amos continued to live on, and cultivate, the farm on which he first settled until January 1800. He had previously made an arrangement to exchange his land for the farm on which Judge Painter first settled on the south line of the town. Fifty acres on which his house stood he deeded to Dr. William Bass, who had, two or three years before, then a young man, commenced the practice of medicine here. That part of the

* Capt. GOODRICH may have belonged to the regular army and had a commission as Lieutenant, from Washington, as his son supposed, which has been lost or sent to Washington to obtain his pension; but the commission remaining among his papers is signed by JONATHAN TRUMBULL, governor of Connecticut, dated 20th May, 1780, after all his service mentioned above, and contains his appointment as "Captain of the third company of the alarm list, in the 6th regiment of the State."

farm which lies between the road leading to Edwin Hammond's and the farm of Freeman Foot, he deeded to Daniel Chipman, he having about that time purchased the Foot farm: and the remainder Goodrich deeded to Painter. In January he removed to the Painter farm and resided on it until his death in Sept. 1823, aged ninety-three years. Amos continued to live with him, during his life, and occupied the farm afterwards until his own death in 1854, at the age of ninety. The farm is now occupied by William F. Goodrich, son of Amos.

William Goodrich, the other son of Stephen, about the year 1787, settled on a second hundred acre lot, extending from Otter Creek eastwardly, where he built a small house and kept a tavern for travelers on the creek, on the site of the cottage afterwards built by Austin Johnson, Esq., and since occupied by his widow. In the year 1791 Goodrich purchased the west half of the second hundred acre division on the minister's right, now owned by Jacob W. Conroe, east of Dr. Bass's, on the opposite side of the road, built him a small house and lived there a few years. In that year his wife opened, at her house, or in a small school-house, on the opposite side of the road, built about that time, the first school for children kept in the neighborhood of the village. Mr. Goodrich, for several years afterwards occupied the mill house and tended the saw mill of Judge Painter. After that he erected the brick house now owned by the Episcopal Society, as a parsonage, where he lived until his death. In the meantime he was chosen town clerk annually from 1797 to 1812, except one year. He died in the last mentioned year, of the epidemic, at the age of fifty-seven.

In 1785, Robert Huston from Voluntown, Conn., settled on the north half of the Oliver Evarts' pitch, about a mile northeast of the village. Evarts, an original proprietor, in the controversy between the colonies and the mother country, adhered to the cause of the latter. He had resided for a time in Castleton, Rutland County. Like many others, he probably stood on neutral ground until the invasion of Burgoyne, which produced a general panic, and to the faint hearted a discouragement as to the prospect of the colonies. He about that time went over to the enemy, and was

residing in Canada after the war. As usual, his land was promptly confiscated by the authorities of the State. On the 24th of August 1778, James Claghorn of Rutland, "commissioner for the sale of confiscated estates, in the probate district of Rutland in the County of Bennington," "in the name and behalf of the representatives of the freemen of the State of Vermont," granted to Robert Huston the whole of Evarts' land, including his pitch, except one hundred acres before sold to William Hopkins, which land "was the property of Oliver Evarts, and now forfeit to this State by his treasonable conduct." Here Mr. Huston continued to reside until the time of his death in 1827, at the age of seventy-seven. His son, Robert Huston Jun., who had always resided with him, continued the possession for several years, and sold the farm and removed to the west. It was until lately the residence of Edwin Hammond, Esq. It has now by an exchange, become the residence of the widow of William S. Hammond. Robert Huston Senior, at the second town meeting in 1787, was chosen town clerk, and continued in that office until 1797. He was also the first postmaster, and held several important trusts in town.

Ebenezer Johnson, from Wells, Rutland County, the same year, went into possession of lot No. 10, of the second hundred acre division, which lies next north of No. 9, of the same division, about a mile east of the village. Johnson continued his possession until 1794. It was afterwards owned by Josiah Stowell, from Mansfield, Conn., and was occupied from 1804 to 1812 by his son, Alfred Stowell, who built the present house. At the latter date, Josiah Stowell went into possession himself. It is now owned and occupied by Dea. Eli Mathews. Josiah Stowell also owned a part of No. 9, on which the house of Millen Stowell, another son, stands.

Elijah Buttolph came into town as early as 1786, and perhaps the year before. His son says, that, at the time, there were only sixteen families settled in town after the war. He soon married the widow of Joseph Plumley, who had taken possession of the farm, on which her husband had commenced a settlement before the war. He occupied her farm until the daughter came of age, and had the use of a part afterwards as the dower of his wife. Buttolph after-

wards purchased several pieces of land, and a small piece of the Plumley lot, on which he built his two story house, now owned by his son Elijah Buttolph, next south of the Plumley farm. Elijah Buttolph senior, died in the year 1835, aged ninety-four years. The daughter of Joseph Plumley married John A. Sumner of New Haven, and they sold her farm on her coming of age. It has since been owned, successively by Billy Manning, who resided on it several years, and by John Simmons Esq. It is now owned by Reuben Wright.

Abraham Kirby from Litchfield, Conn., father of Ephraim Kirby, a distinguished politician of that State, moved with his family into town in February 1786, and settled on a lot, which he had, on the 25th of March previous, pitched on the right of Rufus Marsh, lying next south of a lot pitched on the same day for Joshua Hyde. John S. Kirby, a son of Abraham, remained through the season of 1785, and cleared four or five acres and sowed it to wheat, on his father's pitch. In the year 1790, Mr. Kirby purchased for his son Joseph, who had settled in Lanesborough, Mass., a lot lying next south of his and next north of Moses Hale's farm. His son, in January 1792, moved on his family and took possession of his land. He and his father occupied together the house which the latter had built, and which still remains on the farm. In the spring of 1787, the year after his removal here, Mr. Kirby sent his son, John S., to Pittsford, in company with some other men, to procure apple trees, for the commencement of an orchard, which was the second planted in town. They went up the creek in a canoe, and on their return, ran into the rapids above the falls before they were aware of it, and the current was so strong that they were unable to run their canoe ashore, and were rapidly approaching the falls and expecting to be carried over and dashed to pieces on the rocks below. As they passed under the bridge, which was then building in the place where it now stands, Kirby caught hold of one of the timbers, and clung to it and delayed the course of the canoe, until some men, who were present, came to their relief and rescued them from their impending death.

In January 1791, Mary Kirby, a daughter of Abraham Kirby,

was married to Samuel Severance, son of Ebenezer Severance, an early settler, who will be mentioned hereafter. After their marriage they settled on Hyde's pitch, next north of Kirby's farm, commenced a clearing, built a house and resided on it six years. Afterwards Severance and John S. Kirby exchanged lands, and Kirby took possession of Severance's farm, and lived on it until, at an advanced age, he went to reside with his son in Ripton, where he remained until his death in 1848, aged eighty-five years.

Abraham Kirby, the father, died in 1796 at the age of sixty-five years. After his death, his sons Joseph and John divided the farm, of which he remained the owner, Joseph remaining in possession of the homestead, until his death in 1831, at the age of sixty-three years. The house and farm are now occupied by his son Ephraim Kirby, and the farm of John S. Kirby is owned and cultivated by Alvin Ball. All this family were among the most respectable citizens of the town and members of the Congregational Church. Joseph was one of its earliest deacons.

In 1786 Benjamin Sumner, of Claremont, New Hampshire, having a deed of the governor's right from Martha Wentworth, daughter and heir of Governor Benning Wentworth, and her husband, Michael Wentworth, Col. William B. Sumner, his son, settled on that lot, cleared it up, and built the large house now standing on it. He remained in possession of this farm until within a few years he sold it to Jonathan Wainwright and went to the west to reside with his daughter. For some years he kept a house of public entertainment. Previous to his final sale, he had sold about one hundred acres, which has been owned successively by Juba Olmstead and Henry and Lucius Barrows, sons of Lucius Barrows, and now by Charles H. Wicker. Col. Sumner also sold a small tract, at the south end, which is owned by John A. Hummond. The remainder of the lot was set off to the widow and heirs of Jonathan Wainwright, and most of it is occupied by a tenant under the widow.

Jonathan Preston, from New Canaan, N. Y., was the first who commenced a settlement on Munger Street. In 1786, he went into possession of home lot No. 42, cleared a piece and sowed it to

wheat. The next spring he moved his family, built a log house on his land, and afterwards the present frame house.

Mr. Asa Preston, his son, who is still living, and was then a member of the family, states that there was no clearing between his father's and the village, except on the rising ground where Robert Huston had just located himself, and where Edwin Hummond has since lived, and that, as far as this place they traveled wholly by marked trees. From Huston's the trees were cut away for a road. The path which they traveled through the woods was full of roots, and, in many places, the mud was deep between the roots. Mr. Preston says, that while riding through at one time on horseback, his horse stepped one of his feet between two birch roots, and was held fast. He struggled to extricate himself, but could not until Preston obtained a lever and pried the roots apart sufficiently to let the horse's foot out. There was a sort of bridge across Muddy Branch, where they passed, made with poles placed lengthwise across the stream, and just wide enough for a single horse to pass. As Mr. Preston was riding to mill with his grist on horseback, his horse, on account of some defect in his limbs, traveled a little sideways, and stepped one foot over the bridge and tumbled, with rider and grist, into the stream. Preston picked himself up, drew his bags out of the water and went on.

It was at that time all woods, Mr. Preston says, on the east side of the falls, where the village now is, except a small clearing about Painter's mill, and a small plank house where the miller lived. On the west side of the creek, there was a saw mill belonging to Stillman Foot. The house built by him was then new, probably built the year before, and is the same, with additions and alterations, in which Daniel Henshaw lived for many years.

Jonathan Preston continued to occupy the farm on which he first settled until his death in 1809, at the age of sixty-three years. Since that event it has been owned and is still occupied by his son Asa Preston.

Nathaniel Munger, and his son-in-law Nathan Case, from Norfolk, Conn., commenced a settlement on home lot 43, next south of Preston's, in 1787. Case was a blacksmith, and he and Mr.

Munger had each a log house on the lot. Mr. Munger boarded with Mr. Preston in 1787, when he commenced clearing his farm. He afterwards built the frame house in which Hiram Munger now lives. After a few years Mr. Case moved to No. 12, in the east tier of home lots, where Dudley Munger had commenced a clearing; and Nathaniel Munger continued to occupy and cultivate the farm on which he first settled until the time of his death in 1830, at the age of eighty years.

Edmund Munger, in 1783 or 1789, settled on lot No. 44, next south of Nathaniel Munger's, partly cleared it, and resided on it a few years, and sold it to Alpheus Brooks, who occupied it until his death, and it is now owned by Hiram Munger.

Jonathan Munger, about the same time, commenced a settlement on 41, next north of Preston's. It was afterwards, for many years, owned and cultivated by Capt. David Chittenden, and it is now owned and in the possession of David Hooker. Edmund and Jonathan Munger, as early as 1797, removed to Ohio, and on their journey stopped at Cincinnati, when there were only four log houses there.

Previous to 1792, Dudley Munger, a brother of the others of that name, had made considerable improvements on No. 12, and in that year sold it to Nathan Case, and removed to No. 45, next south of Edmund Munger, on which he settled. Phineas Phelps had before made a beginning on that lot and built a log house. Munger soon after built the present two-story house and resided on the lot until the death of his wife, when at an advanced age he went to reside in the family of his only son Hiram Munger, Esq., on the Nathaniel Munger farm. The farm on which he lived is now owned by Samuel N. Brooks.

Reuben Munger, another brother, came to Middlebury about the year 1789. His first settlement in Vermont was at Fair Haven. He settled on No. 40, the north lot on the west tier of home lots. He lived on this lot until his death in 1828, at the age of 72.

Seymour Sellick, from Salisbury Conn., settled on No. 46, belonging to the right of Bethel Sellick, his father, an original proprietor. This lot lies south of and adjoining Dudley Munger's

farm, and Sellick was in possession of it before Munger had taken possession of his. Munger about that time married Sellick's sister. While they lived there, they each built a two story house, of the same dimensions, only a few rods apart. Both were raised on the same day, and both painted red. Mr. Sellick continued to cultivate his farm until his death. It has since been owned by different persons, and among others by Dea. Salmon Moulton from Orwell, who lived on it several years. While in his possession in 1834, the house built by Sellick was burnt, and the present house was built by him. It is now owned by Chauncey Moore.

These seven families constituted the neighborhood of Munger Street, came into town near the same time, and settled within an average distance of fifty rods of each other, occupying the whole land on both sides of the street,—their farms being fifty rods wide on the road, and one mile in length, east and west. The five Mungers, with Elizur Munger, who spent only one year in town, constituted the six sons of Elizur Munger of Norfolk, Conn., and were among the most respectable citizens of Middlebury, as were also Mr. Preston and Mr. Sellick.

There has been no permanent settlement on home lot No. 47, next south of Seymour Sellick's. But Philip Foot, at an early day, built a saw mill on the west end of the lot, which is now owned by Nichols and Wheeler, and used in connection with their chair factory. It has been owned, and the houses in the neighborhood, occupied, at different times, by different individuals.

Abel Case, a brother of Nathan Case, at an early day settled on home lot 48. He built the house now standing on it, and continued his residence there until 1831, when he was thrown from his wagon while returning home from the village in the evening, and descending the hill north of Edwin Hammond's. When discovered he was dead. His son-in-law, George Smith, now owns and lives on the farm.

Daniel Sellick, a brother of Seymour Sellick, at an early day, settled on the second hundred acre division on the right of his father, Bethel Sellick, about a mile southerly from the village. He had resided a year or two with his brother Seymour, and in the mean-

time was married to Eleanor Goff from Winchester, Conn., then residing with her brother-in-law, Abel Case. He built a log house on the lot then entirely new, cleared it and resided on it until he died in January 1813, of the epidemic. His widow afterwards resided with her son Bethel and a daughter on the same farm, and died October 27, 1856, aged ninety-seven years.

Mrs. Sellick in her life time stated that when they settled on their farm, Judge Painter, Dr. Matthews, John Deming and Samuel Miller resided in the village,—the last in a small office. The village, she says, was not cleared except around the houses; that a road was then open from their house northerly, to the road which passes Dr. Bass's, a little east of Mr. Couroe's barn: but was open no further south, except a wood road in winter, which was travelled only on horseback in summer until the Centre Turnpike was built. She states, that while she lived at Abel Case's, she, with Mr. Case and others, in the winter, started on an ox sled through the woods to attend meeting at Daniel Foot's. The sled, on the way, run over the end of a log, and turned them over, and her arm was broken. Religious meetings were then held in Daniel Foot's large barn.

As early as 1785, Hezekiah Wadsworth, a brother of Israel Wadsworth, owned a second hundred acre lot, lying north of the farm formerly owned by Dea. Simon Farr. He afterwards settled on it, built a house and resided there for several years, and afterwards resided on the Harris farm, on the west side of the creek, then in Cornwall, now owned by Mr. Shackett. The Wadsworth lot was afterwards owned by Samuel Miller, as a part of his home farm. The house, which Wadsworth built, stood on the road mentioned by Mrs. Sellick; and was afterwards moved by Mr. Miller to the turnpike, a little south of the dwelling house lately owned by Seymour J. Dewey, and now occupied by the widow of Gideon Carpenter, who died November 22, 1858, aged 66 years. The house has been known as Miller's farm house. The lot is now owned by Gen. Nash, and the house by Louis Hope.

About the year 1790, Dea. Simon Farr settled on a farm lying south of Wadsworth's, and north of Daniel Sellick's, where he resided for many years, until he removed to New Haven. The farm

had for many years, been owned by Mr. Roswell Fitch, since deceased, and is now owned by Augustus H. Matthews.

Martin Evarts, Esq., settled on home lot 64, lying next north of Martin Foot's farm, as early as 1788, cleared it up and built the two story house, in which he resided until the time of his death. It is now owned by Gardner C. Cady, who resides on it.

Ebenezer Severance, from Northfield, Mass., moved into town as early as the spring of 1790, and settled on the west end of home lots 16 and 17. These he cleared and cultivated, as his home farm until the time of his death in 1812, at the age of seventy-three. He owned also the west half of 18 and 19, and the east half of 55 in the west tier of home lots, lying west of and adjoining No. 18. By an arrangement between his son Samuel Severance, and his son-in-law John S. Kirby, he deeded to the former the three lots last mentioned, and Samuel Severance deeded to Kirby the lot on which he had commenced and resided, and took possession of the lands received from his father. And, as before mentioned, John S. Kirby took possession of the lot next north of his father, Abraham Kirby, received from Severance.

Samuel Severance settled on the east end of 55, and cleared 18 and 19, which were entirely wild. Here he resided until 1851, when he died at the age of eighty-six years. The farm is now owned by his sons Smith Severance and Darius Severance, each of whom has a house on the premises. The widow of Samuel Severance is a daughter ^{Wanda} of Abraham Kirby, as we have before intimated, and is still living at the age of eighty-five, with a remarkable intelligence and memory for her age. From her we have derived many facts in relation to the early settlement. *8 June 1881 and Aug 1881*

Enos Severance, another son of Ebenezer Severance, settled on the west end of home lots 14 and 15, next north of his father, built the present house, now occupied by his widow, and remained until his death in 1842, at an advanced age.

Moses Severance, another son, who came into town with his father, after residing elsewhere for several years, returned to Middlebury with his family, and lived in the house with his father, and took care of him in his old age, and remained in possession of the

farm until his death. The farm is now owned and cultivated by David E. Boyce, son of Dea. David Boyce.

John Tillotson, a young man from Long Island, came to Middlebury in 1784, with no capital but his hands, and an enterprising disposition. The following year he married the daughter of Sim-eon Chandler, then a resident, and for several years remained in the family of his father-in-law. In the meantime he labored for different persons, and thus supported his family, and accumulated property sufficient to enable him to buy land for himself. He first began and built a log house on home lot No. 29. He soon moved to No. 28, where Philo Achley had commenced a clearing and built a plank house. On this lot he built the present house and adjoining buildings. Here he resided until October 1855, when he died at the age of ninety-three. The farm has been recently sold by his heirs to E. K. Severance, who now owns it.

About the time of John Tillotson's purchase, his brother Silas Tillotson settled on No. 30, next south. He remained several years in possession of this lot, and moved from town. The farm is now owned by William P. Huntington.

Deacon Ebenezer Sumner, in 1787, settled on home lot 36 opposite the house of Philip Foot, where he resided until his death. The following is a part of the story of his widow as related to Mr. Battell in 1850, when she was ninety-one years old. She died in 1853, at the age of ninety-four.

She was a native of Chatham, Conn., and her name was Hall. Her husband was from Middletown. They were married in 1780, and ten days after they accompanied his father to Wells, in Rutland County. After remaining there seven years, the difficulty of maintaining a religious organization, in so broken a town, led her husband to remove. They came to Middlebury with their children, and settled near the north end of Foot Street. Their log house stood with the wood so darkening around it, that they could not see the road on the left; and seemed shut off from it, and it was at first very gloomy. After mentioning the organization of the church, she says, that there was subsequently much interest, with a part of

the people, in religious things. The women and children came to meeting on sleds from Munger Street, and old Mr. Weeks and wife came six miles from Salisbury. Four or five professors, within two miles, among whom was her husband, would meet once a fortnight, at each other's houses for prayer and conversation. She does not remember the names of the first preachers. Dr. Swift preached two or three times a year before Mr. Barnet came. Mr. Barnet was ordained in a barn; Dr. Merrill in the Court House. Mr. Barnet lived in her own neighborhood. One summer Mr. Foot did not like to be troubled with the meetings, he said, and they were held in her husband's barn.

The stake for the centre of the town was set south of them on Foot Street; but Mr. Foot would not set out fifty acres in lots, and Judge Painter said they must go to the village. When they did this finally, father Foot left the church and joined the Baptists, and was immersed in Lemon Fair. Mrs. Sumner thought him a good man, but he was irritable and strong tempered. His wife was an excellent woman. Her name was Stillman, and she had two sisters in Middletown, one of whom was the mother of Mr. Daniel Henshaw. Mrs. Foot used to tell of being here before the war. The summer before they left, their beds were packed every morning ready for a start. Mr. Foot finally left and staid in Washington, Berkshire County.

Dr. Willard was the first physician she saw here. The people used to doctor one another. Hearing of the sickness of others, and supposing some remedy would be useful, they communicated it. Watchers went two miles and more. She remembered the dysentery as an epidemic about forty years ago. A grave was opened in town every day for four weeks, and on two Sundays of those, a man and child were buried. She used formerly to visit Connecticut, at least as often as once in five years, travelling by sleigh or waggon, and sometimes on horseback. She had ridden, in this way, the whole distance, going about forty miles a day.

Mr. Sumner was one of the first deacons in the congregational church, and was regarded as a very pious man, and a faithful sup-

porter of religious institutions. His death occurred in August 1844, at the age of eighty-seven years.*

Elijah Olmstead of Bolton, Conn., in 1787 owned lots 11 and 12 of the second hundred acre division, lying east of the governor's lot. These two lots belonged to Oliver Evarts. at the time his property was confiscated for 'treasonable conduct.' and seem not to have been discovered by the authorities of Vermont. Olmstead settled on No. 12, cleared it, built the two story house still standing, and continued to occupy it for many years. In 1814 he sold this farm to Col. Eleazer Claghorn, then residing in Salisbury, who continued his possession of it until his death in 1813, at the age of sixty-eight. It is now owned by Harry Goodrich Esq.

Lot No. 11 was purchased by Samuel Little, who, with his brother, James Little, went into possession of it, cleared it, and each built a plank or log house, one on the north part, where Mr. Barrows' house stands, and the other on the south half. Eleazer Barrows in 1796 purchased the whole lot, and resided on it with his family until his death in 1840, at the age of seventy-one. In the meantime he built the present two story house. Mr. Lucius Barrows, his son, has occupied the farm since his death.

Abraham Vanduzer of Salisbury, Conn., came to Middlebury in 1789, with his eldest daughter and his son Harry Vanduzer, leaving his family behind for about two years. For two or three years he carried on the farm which Judge Painter left when he removed to the village. His son remained through the winter to take care of the cattle; and boarded at Capt. Thomas Chipman's, the nearest resident family. In 1793, Vanduzer purchased of Col. Sloan the south half of the Slasson pitch and settled on it. While living there he built the small house, in which he resided at the time of

*Dea. Sumner at an early day deeded to his son, James Sumner, home lot 22. In 1811 he began to clear it, then in an entirely wild state. On this lot he has since resided with his family. His son, J. A. Sumner occupies with him the new house recently built. Dea. Sumner also deeded to his son Samuel lot No. 20 who cleared it and resided on it for several years, and afterwards removed from town. Charles Landon Jun., occupies the south half and Charles Sullens the north half.

his death, which occurred in 1795, at the age of fifty-three. His widow survived him many years and resided in the same house.

Harry Vanduzer, son of Abraham, in 1794 began a clearing on home lot 58, on the right of Noah Chittenden, the whole of which his father previously owned, built a log cabin on it, and resided there with his family. In the meantime Samuel Vanduzer had built the two story house now standing on the homestead of his father. In the year 1806, Harry, having purchased the interest of Samuel in the premises, removed to that farm and resided on it until the year 1825, when he removed to Oneida County, N. Y., where he died in 1829. Mrs. Dorrance, widow of Martin S. Dorrance, is his daughter. The whole farm, on which Abraham Vanduzer first settled, is now owned by the town, as a poor house and farm.

John Vanduzer, another son of Abraham, settled on the second hundred acre lot, on the right owned by his father, lying east of and adjoining the Slasson pitch and north of the Loomis lot. He cleared this farm and built the present house which has since been altered and repaired. He removed from the State in 1814, and was succeeded by Capt. Timothy Matthews. The farm is now owned by John Vallett, residing in the village.

Rev. John Barnet, who was ordained as the pastor of the Congregational Society in 1790, and, as "the first settled minister," was entitled to a whole right, instead of selecting either lot on that right for a residence, settled on home lot 57, in the neighborhood, which it was supposed would be established as the centre of the town. On this lot he resided while he remained in town. This lot and the lot south of it, on which Harry Vanduzer first settled, were united in one farm by Dr. William Bass, and constituted the farm lately owned by Jacob W. Conroe and now by Smith K. Seeley.

Cyrus Starkweather had commenced a settlement on the lot afterwards occupied by Mr. Barnet. He then settled on the east half of the second hundred acre lot on the minister's right, built a house there and in 1793, sold the premises to John Deming.

Moses Boardman, about the year 1788, settled on No. 3 of the second hundred acre division, and after residing on it for several

years sold the farm to Ichabod Morton, who continued to occupy it until his death, and in the meantime built the present two story house. He died in 1826, at the age of sixty-four years.

Billy Munger, about the same time, settled on No. 1, east of Moses Boardman's, and adjoining the home lots. He cleared this lot, built a house and resided on it until his death in 1822, at the age of sixty-eight. This lot and the preceding were afterwards occupied by Ichabod M. Cushman as his home farm, until the time of his death, residing in the house built by Morton. The widow of Mr. Cushman retains her dower in the farm, and the remainder is owned by his son-in-law, John Hacket, who resides with the widow on the homestead.

Bethuel Goodrich, about the year 1790 settled and built a house on No. 4, lying north of Boardman's lot, and resided on it until his death in 1829 at the age of fifty-three years. The lot was afterwards owned by Austin Johnson, Esq., and now belongs to his estate.

Elnathan Hammond, from Lanesborough, Mass., in the year 1794, settled on a lot of about forty acres next north of Lucius Barrows' farm, on the west end of the second hundred acre division, on the right of John Howe. This was a long lot about forty rods wide, lying between the old and new line of New Haven. On this he commenced a clearing and built a plank house. This whole lot extended east a few rods over the Muddy Branch, and a small tract, including the falls, at the east end has been appropriated as a mill lot and is now owned, with the marble saw-mill and privileges, by Isaac Gibbs. Ephraim Spaulding for many years, and until his death owned and occupied the remainder as his home farm. It is now owned by Horatio Goodrich.

Mr. Hammond remained at the place of his first settlement only a year or two, and removed to that part of No. 13 next north of Robert Huston's lot, which lies east of the road. Here he built a house and resided with his family until the 10th of September 1856, when he died at the age of ninety-five. His sons, William S. and Edwin having grown up to maturity, have advantageously and profitably improved the farm, and from year to year have added ^{half} ^{an} ^{acre} ^{more} ^{to} ^{the} ^{farm}.

among other tracts, the remainder of the original lot, on which their father settled, and the whole of the Robert Huston farm. Edwin occupied the house on the latter, and William S.* in his lifetime recently built him a new house opposite to the old homestead, which by an exchange with his widow is now occupied by Edwin. John A. Hammond, another son, as elsewhere stated, resides on the south east corner of the governor's right, and owns a part of that with other lands.

Richard Hall from Mansfield Conn., purchased the lot on which Mr. Hammond first settled, with other adjoining lands in New Haven, and occupied them as his home farm until 1799, when he was succeeded by Dea. Samuel Craft. After Deacon Craft's sons, Pearl Craft and William Craft arrived at mature age and had families of their own, his father divided his farm between them; but they successively sold their lands and removed to the west. While they lived here, Deacon Craft and his son Pearl lived together in the old plank house, which is now demolished, and William built the present house for his residence. This house, with the adjoining lands, is owned by Almon Farnsworth.

Eleazer Conant from Mansfield, Conn., in 1794, purchased the south half of the Bentley pitch and a part of the Risley pitch, and went into possession of it with his family; and the same year his brother John Conant purchased of Elisha Fuller, and went into possession of the north half of the Bentley lot. Eleazer Conant resided on his farm for many years, until his sons had grown up and settled in the west, among whom was Hon. Shubael Conant of Detroit. Soon after in 1819 he and his wife went to visit their children, and both died, while making their visit at the residence of their son, Hon. Horatio Conant, at Maumee, Ohio. His farm is now owned by different persons. The dwelling house and land above the road belongs to the estate of John Simmons Esq.

John Conant continued on his farm until his death. It has since

*William S. Hammond died of a lung fever, after a short but distressing illness, on the 27th May, 1858, universally lamented. He was a deacon of the Congregational Church, and as a man was universally respected and loved.

been owned by Gen. Hastings Warren, and afterwards by William Y. Ripley, and now by Edward Muzzey.

Abisha Washburn, in 1793, received from his son-in-law John Chipman, a deed of the farm on which Jonathan Chipman first settled, and in 1796 deeded it to his son-in-law, Freedom Loomis, then of Sunderland, on the condition of receiving for himself and wife, during their lives, such sums as they might need for their support. They continued to reside here together until the time of their respective deaths. Mr. Washburn died in 1813, aged 91 years; his wife in 1815, aged 87, and Mr Loomis in 1822, at the age of 56. George C. Loomis, son of Mr. Loomis, continued in possession of the farm for several years. It is now owned by Smith K. Seeley. The two story house built by Mr. Loomis was burnt in 1838 or 1839, and has not been rebuilt.

CHAPTER VII.

JAMES CRANE AND BROTHER—GIDEON ABBEY—NATHAN CASE—
DARIUS TUPPER—DEA. BOYCE—EAST MIDDLEBURY VILLAGE—
INCIDENTS OF THE EARLY SETTLEMENTS—FAMINE.

JAMES CRANE was the first settler in the neighborhood, constituting the north part of the east tier of home lots. He and his brother Jeremiah in 1790, commenced on different parts of No. 11. That year they worked on their land and the next year removed their families. The first year there was no family, on any road leading to that neighborhood, nearer than Joshua Hyde's; and the brothers went there to get their clothes washed. Jeremiah Crane continued to cultivate his farm until his death, which took place many years ago. After four or five years, James Crane removed from his farm, and it was afterwards owned successively by Waldo Carey and Eleazer Abbey, and is now owned by his son, Warren Abbey. When he left this farm he settled on the east half of No. 8, with some adjoining lands. On this farm he resided until his death in 1845, at about the age of eighty. The farm is now owned by Luther C. Fales and Joseph Fales.

Nathan Case about the year 1792, settled on lot No. 12, on which Dudley Munger had commenced. Here he built the present dwelling-house and resided until his death, at an advanced age. Before his death, his son Abel P. Case occupied a house, which had been built on a part of the same farm, and continued the possession of the whole farm for several years, and moved to the west. The farm has since been divided and is now owned severally by Sidney Mead, Warren Abbey and D. W. Chittenden.

Home lot No. 51 was also owned by Nathan Case, and constituted a part of his home farm. Among other tenants, Major William

Cummings lived for a time on the lot. He had been a school teacher, and was poor and in feeble health, and was troubled to obtain food for his family. These circumstances occasioned a fatal depression, which, it was thought, disturbed his mental faculties, and led him to commit suicide, by hanging himself on a tree near the house, in December, 1817, at the age of 47. The lot is now owned and occupied by Isaac Lovett.

Elisha Sheldon, about the year 1790, made a beginning on No. 9, and in the year 1794 was succeeded by Benjamin Maltbie, who remained in possession until 1797, when he removed, with Jonathan and Edmund Munger, to Ohio. At the last mentioned date, Gideon Abbey, of Mansfield Conn. purchased and settled on this lot. He also had a perpetual lease of No. 10, on the right of the Society for Propagating the Gospel, and continued to occupy both the lots until his death at the age of 92 years. Mr. Abbey built, and while he lived, resided in the present dwelling house on No. 9. Theodatus Phelps now occupies the house and lot. Orin Abbey and Abel Abbey, and perhaps other heirs, severally own parts of No. 10.

The east road passes from south to north through nearly the whole length of the east tier of the home lots, and divides them into unequal parts. The different parts of the same lot have been severed and added to parts of other lots, and all have frequently changed owners. This renders it perplexing for us to ascertain, or the reader to understand correctly, the history of the settlement. And being more recently settled, and not properly included in the "early settlements," we feel bound not to trespass longer on the patience of the reader, with these tiresome details, in the correctness of which neither they nor we can have much confidence. We are therefore obliged to abridge our materials as well as plan. This we regret the more, as the territory is fast rising in importance, and in public estimation.

We add only one or two cases in other parts of the town.

Darius Tupper from Charlotte, where he first settled in this State, in the winter of 1794-5, removed his family and settled on lot No. 23, a second hundred acre lot, lying south of home lot 66, then owned by Martin Foot, and north of Slasson's pitch. Mr. Tupper

soon after built the present large house, for many years kept a tavern and remained in possession until his death. He died in 1828, at the age of 74. Amos Boardman had previously commenced a settlement on this lot. Previous to his death a house had been built and occupied, on the opposite side of the road, by his son-in-law, James Champlain. After his decease, the farm was divided among his heirs, and that part lying east of the road, and a part of that on the west side, was for some years owned by Edwin B. Douglass and now by Ira B. Wicker. The remainder, with the large house, is occupied by Silas Perkins, a son-in-law.

Deacon David Boyce in 1814 had taken a permanent lease of the second hundred acre lot on the Glebe right, and owned thirty acres on home lot 53, north of and adjoining his leased lot, settled on the latter and built the brick house and other buildings now standing there, cleared both lots and occupied them as his home farm until his death. His widow and son Elijah S. Boyce now reside on the farm.

VILLAGE OF EAST MIDDLEBURY.

The west part of this village, as far east as Kneeland Olmstead's dwelling house, is located principally on home lot 35. The buildings north of the road, leading from the school house to its junction with that which leads from the Torrance place, are on lot 34, formerly owned by Eber Everts. That part of the village which lies east of Kneeland Olmstead's is on the mill lot pitched by Joshua Hyde. The village lies principally along the north border of Middlebury River, and extends east to the foot of the mountain, where the river issues from a deep gorge.

The first application of the extensive water power at this place was the erection of a saw mill in 1790, by John Foot, on the south side of the river. The year following Foot built a house for the miller, which was occupied by the family of Nathan Carpenter, who had charge of the mill, and was father of Nathan and Gideon Carpenter. His was the first family which resided in East Middlebury. Joshua Hyde and Eber Everts, who then owned the mill lot, deeded to him one half of it, as a consideration for his erecting the mill. Hyde also soon after built a saw mill on the upper dam. Foot, at

the time, resided on the west side of the falls, in Cornwall, and was concerned in the mills there. In 1811, Foot moved from New Haven, as before mentioned, to the mill lot in East Middlebury, rebuilt the saw mill, and successively erected works for dressing cloth and carding wool, a grist mill and the gambrel roof house, a few rods south of Farr's tavern, in which he resided for several years.

Epaphras Jones, who had previously, in the name of the Vermont Glass Factory Company, erected a large establishment for manufacturing window glass, at Lake Dunmore in Salisbury, wishing to extend his operations, in the year 1812, erected in East Middlebury, a little west of Farr's hotel, a large circular brick building for the manufacture of glass ware. He also built two dwelling houses, near by and westerly for the accommodation of his workmen, and another building for a store and office. This establishment encouraged the hope, that the place, with its valuable water power, would soon become a place of extensive business. This hope induced Mr. Foot to build the large tavern house above mentioned. In this he opened and, for several years, continued a house of public entertainment, which is now occupied by Royal D. Farr. But Jones' establishment, because he did not succeed well in the manufacture of glass, or for other reasons, broke up, and the brilliant prospects, which it had induced, vanished with it. The anticipated growth of the place was checked, but not wholly stopped by this disaster. Mr. Foot erected and repaired his works above mentioned, and rebuilt his grist mill, and died in 1849 at the age of 84 years. Other establishments were successively erected, and the business and population of the village has been gradually increasing, until the present time. If there had been sufficient capital available, the increase would have been much larger.

Mr. Daniel L. Sessions settled in the village in 1821, and by his aid and that of Norman Tupper, Esq., we have been able to ascertain some facts relating to the growth since that year and its population and business at the present time. In 1821, there were ten dwelling houses, and a somewhat larger number of families. At this time the number of dwelling houses, in the compact part of the village, is fifty. Some of the houses being occupied by more than

one family, the number of families is larger. David S. Church, Esq., who, as deputy marshall, enumerated the inhabitants in Middlebury in 1850, at our request, has ascertained the number of inhabitants in that village to be four hundred and thirty. He probably included some families, not embraced in the estimate of Messrs. Sessions and Tupper, but properly to be estimated, as belonging to the village.

There is also a neat church, owned by the Universalists, two stores, several mechanics and the following water-works: At the upper dam are a forge and saw mill, owned by Israel Davey. Next below is the tannery, owned by Horace, son of Parley Enos, who first established it many years ago, and a shop owned by David Olmstead, with machinery for boring, sawing and turning timber for waggons, which he manufactures. On the south side of the river are a saw mill, belonging to the estate of Norman Boardman, and a machine for sawing shingles, owned by George Champlin. Still lower is a shop owned by Kneeland and Waldo Olmstead, for the manufacture of waggons, and machinery for fitting the timber for them, supplied by water from the river by a tube. Next below this is a grist mill, owned by Norman Tupper Esq., built in 1850, and below this a sash factory* owned by Almon P. Tupper, and a factory for sawing and fitting barrel staves for the Boston market, owned by E. Hayward & Co. The three last mentioned works are furnished with water conducted by a canal, without any dam across the river.

The Middlebury River, at this place, furnishes a large amount of water power, sufficient to operate works to a much greater extent than those now in operation. It is, like all mountain streams, very impetuous, rises suddenly and is liable, in high freshets, to break through the barriers which confine it, and has occasionally done mischief in the village. The most considerable instance of this,

*This factory was established by Norman Tupper Esq. father of the present owner, who in 1830 invented the necessary machinery for making the mortices and manufacturing all other parts of window sash by water power; which is still in operation

which we now call to mind, is the freshet of 1850, which we have elsewhere mentioned.

Besides the very valuable water power, this village is otherwise advantageously situated. The ground on which it stands is mostly level, and is connected with a level region of considerable extent, widening as it recedes from the mountain. The soil, where most of the village stands is gravelly, and the surrounding region is composed of an alluvial or intervale soil of a very productive character.

INCIDENTS OF THE EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Every body has heard something of the hardships and privations of a new settlement. But the experience of the present day gives no adequate impression of what such an adventure was in the days of our predecessors. Now families may carry with them all the comforts, and, if they wish, the luxuries of life, by steamboats, rail roads and other open and comfortable roads, to the newest settlements. And when they reach their destination, they find prairies already cleared to their hand, and ready for the plough; and, if they have not all the required comforts, they have easy access to them. But when Middlebury was settled, the people who came here were poor, as the whole country was, and were forced to make their way, as best they could, without roads and locate themselves in a dense forest. This was to be cleared away, with wasting labor, before they had room to plant their cabins, or fields for their first crop. As to provisions and furniture, they could bring but few articles, if they had them. Before the war and for several years after, there were no mills nearer than Pittsford or Ticonderoga, and there was no access to them, by roads passable with teams; and much of their grain for food was pounded in large wooden mortars made for that purpose.

Many of the incidents of the early settlements are recorded in our previous history; and at the close of this part we add a few others.

Mrs. Loomis says, that her father's family had become, at one time, destitute of all kinds of flour and meal, and her father, Col. John Chipman, took a bag of grain on his shoulder, and carried it on foot to Ticonderoga to be ground and was gone several days;

and in the meantime the family lived wholly on milk. We learn from another source as coming from Mrs. Chipman, that after opening their log cabin for the entertainment of travellers, she had but one towel for her guests; and when travellers came, who appeared rather smart, she went to the river in the evening, washed and ironed it, to be ready for her guests in the morning. When Mr. John Deming was nominated for tavern-keeper, as mentioned elsewhere, he was like all the other settlers, destitute of the requisite furniture for the accommodation of his guests, and unable from the want of mechanics, to supply the deficiency. He needed especially bedsteads, and called on Judge Painter for the loan of one. "Oh yes," said the Judge, "but, in that case I shall be obliged to lie on the floor."

But the greatest scarcity of provisions was in 1790; and it was little short of a famine. It is said that sufficient provisions were raised the preceding year to supply the settlers: but, on account of the famine in the counties north and in Canada, they had been carried away to feed the people in those places. Mr. Loomis of Burlington says the famine in that neighborhood was in 1789. Mr. Abraham Williamson was then fourteen years old, and recollects the famine here. His statement, confirmed by his wife, is that being wholly destitute of bread, the women went into the fields and cut off the heads of the wheat before it was ripe, dried them, shelled out the wheat and boiled it for food; that almost the only animal food was the fish taken in Lemon Fair creek, and he thinks that, without this supply, many of the people would have starved. He saw there, he says, larger collections of people from the neighboring country, catching fish, than on any other occasion for many years after. He says that many were so enfeebled for want of food, that they could not go: but such as had strength went to the creek, built a fire, and, as they caught the fish, threw them into it, while yet showing signs of life, and when sufficiently cooked stripped off and ate the flesh, without disturbing the entrails. After their own appetites were satisfied, they caught and preserved the remainder for their friends at home. He states also, that many subsisted on the bulbous roots of leeks, gathered in the woods, and some stripped the bark from oak trees, the inner bark of which they boiled and converted

into a kind of food; and that he has seen many oak trees stripped of their bark, for that purpose, as high as men could reach. The first bread stuff, he says, brought into the country was Virginia corn.

The following anecdote is received from Mrs. Williamson. A farmer in the neighborhood had a larger supply of provisions than his neighbors, but not a proportionate share of benevolence. His wife was a benevolent woman, from a Quaker family, and educated in their principles. She was willing to share in the destitution of her neighbors, that they might share in her abundance. She gave to the destitute the bran of her wheat as long as her husband would consent; and she thought it none the worse for a little flour mixed with it. The recipients of her bounty sifted the bran, and made wholesome bread of the finer parts, and such flour as might be with it. One day, when preparing a batch of bread, in the absence of her husband, she took a loaf of the dough and carried it to a neighbor by the name of Thaddeus Palmer, an uncle of Mrs. Williamson, and living near her father, and said to him, "Thaddeus, thee take this and give part of it to Polly," and went home. Polly was the mother of Mrs. Williamson.

Miss Althea Deming states, that her father that year went to Connecticut, and on his return purchased at Lanesborough a quantity of beans, peas, wheat and corn, and loaded his own horse and those of two young men in company. The sight of such a treasure was an occasion of great triumph to Mrs. Deming, as she had baked her last loaf. The family, she says, had restricted themselves to two meals a day, and after the cows were milked at evening, they finished the day with milk punch, seasoned with a small allowance of whiskey; and that many families lived for weeks without bread.

Mr. Asa Preston says that he well recollects the famine; that the family were destitute of all kinds of bread stuffs, as well as animal food. Their whole dependence was on the milk of two cows. In this dilemma, his father started on horseback for the south to procure grain, and was gone some time. While his father was absent, he went to the woods and dug up a large quantity of the roots of leeks, which were dried and cooked, when needed, and eaten with their milk, and that this was their only food.

CHAPTER VIII.

FACE OF THE COUNTRY—SOIL—AGRICULTURE—MINERAL SPRING.

ALTHOUGH a considerable part of the mountainous region, on the east part of the town has been set off to Ripton, there still remains in Middlebury the first or western ridge. Some of this is valuable tillage land, and some suitable for pasture lands, but much of it is steep, and some parts difficult of access from the low lands, and a large share of it, although well timbered, is too steep and stony to be advantageously improved for farming. Of that part which lies west of the mountain, some of it is level, alluvial land, on the banks of Otter Creek and Middlebury River; but most of it is moderately rolling. The principal elevation, and the only one perhaps, which rises to the distinction of a hill, is that which lies north-easterly from the village. This has generally borne the name of Chipman's Hill, because Hon. Daniel Chipman formerly owned the south end of it, and his residence was at its beautiful southern point. The members of college, who used formerly to assemble there annually in the spring for their celebration, gave it the name of the "Hill of Science." Dr. Merrill in his history of Middlebury proposed to adopt the name of "Mount Nebo," which has not been received with much favor, and neither of the last two names have been much used in *common parlance*. The prospect from the summit of this hill is among the finest in New England. From it are seen the elevated mountains west of Lake Champlain, the Green Mountains in the east, including Camel's Hump in the north-east, and the less elevated mountains of Rutland County in the south, and the extensive undulating country enclosed by them. At one point, in a clear day, is seen the Lake itself in the north-west. Professor Hall says of this hill, "Its elevation by the barometer, above the level of the

water in Otter Creek, below the fall, is four hundred and thirty-nine feet." The principal rivers are Otter Creek and Middlebury River, and the next largest stream is Muddy Branch, on which stand the saw mills of Nichols and Wheeler and Abbey and Lovett and the marble mill of Isaac Gibbs. The supply of water on this stream is sufficient for these works except in a dry season. Of the rivers sufficient account is given in the preliminary article on the County of Addison, and incidentally in this history.

Of the limestone some general account is also given in the sketch of the County. To this we add the following quotation from Professor Hall. "Lime stone, which, with comparatively moderate heat, may be changed into lime, exists in almost every quarter of the town." "Marble of the finest texture and susceptible of a high polish, is found here in an inexhaustible abundance. The soil indeed of the whole township appears to rest on a vast basis of marble. In more than a hundred places does the marble make its appearance above the surface. It is arranged in strata, somewhat irregular, and of different thicknesses, but all inclining more or less to the plain of the horizon. It is of various colors, from pure white to deep grey, verging to a black." Of the quarry owned by Isaac Gibbs, he says—"A white marble has been quarried and wrought, on a small scale, in the north part of Middlebury. It has received the name of Kirby marble. When polished, it strongly resembles the statuary marble of Italy. I have in my mineralogical cabinet specimens both from this and from Dr. Judd's quarry, which, in point of transparency, delicacy of texture and general beauty, are not surpassed by any Carrara or Parian marble, which has ever fallen under my observation."

Middlebury, we think, as a whole, has not much cause for boasting of its soil or agriculture. There is much good land, in different parts of the town, and many fine farms. But a large proportion of the soil is a stiff and not very fertile clay, which requires too much labor for thorough tilling, to encourage the farmers to make the needed effort. Much of the dry upland was originally covered with hemlock and pine, which do not furnish so much fertility to the surface of the soil, as deciduous forests by their annually falling leaves.

There is also little silicious, vegetable, or other fertilizing substances in the soil itself. But it has clay in abundance, which is one of the essential ingredients of a fertile soil, and probably sufficient lime. Other ingredients may be added, which will destroy its tenacity, and render it fertile and susceptible of more easy tilling. We have known some of the most productive gardens made on the stiffest clay, by mixing with it sand, muck or rotten chips and barnyard manure. The land, in such case, should be ploughed or thrown up into ridges in the fall, so as to be exposed to the action of the frost, and drain off the surface water in the spring. This would require considerable labor and expense. But we think that, where the materials can be conveniently obtained, the farmer would be well paid by thus gradually preparing so much of his land as he may need for tilling. The lands, which are not sufficiently dry, should also be thoroughly drained. But some dry lands, in their natural state are sufficiently mixed with other ingredients to be easily, if rightly, tilled without any additional mixture. And much of the lower lands, which were originally covered with ash, elm and soft maple, have proved to be good for grass, without any artificial preparation. The alluvial lands and the higher parts of many hills, which were originally covered with maple, beech and other upland wood, have lighter soils, are easily tilled and adapted to the production of corn and other crops, which require hoeing.

Lands on the east street near the mountain, some of which are sandy, and others more properly called loam, have heretofore been undervalued, and have been slow in their settlement. But more recently they have risen in public estimation, and are now regarded as among the most valuable. Much of the land in the neighborhood of the village, in the east part of the town and elsewhere, was originally covered with a heavy growth of pine, which is very valuable for its timber, but not likely to be selected for farming. We repeat therefore, that while we have much land of the first quality, Middlebury has not been distinguished for a high agricultural reputation, among its more distinguished neighbors. The smaller town of Cornwall, at the first census of 1791 had a population more than double that of Middlebury, and several other towns in the county nearly double.

The nature of our soil has induced the farmers to devote their efforts to the raising of stock rather than tilling. The tendency of this has been to reduce the number of farmers, and the population in the agricultural parts of the town. But we think our agriculture is improving, the farms are generally in good and more permanent hands, and we trust, ere long, we may be able to stand a competition with our neighbors without discredit.

Peaches and quinces are not raised here with any success. But apples, pears, plums, cherries and all other fruits, common to this latitude, are raised in the highest perfection; as are also all garden vegetables.

MINERAL SPRING.

The following is copied from the history of Middlebury, by Dr. Merrill, who was much better acquainted with the subject than we are. "About thirty or forty rods to the right of the road, leading north-east from the village, and nearly two miles distant, on very low land belonging to Messrs. William and Edwin Hammond, within a circuit of twenty feet radius, are seven springs,—the Septennary Springs. They appear to be independent of each other, as digging a channel and lowering one does not affect the others. They have deposited, especially the western ones, in abundance, calcareous tufa, which much resembles that of Clarendon. Some of this tufa exhibits traces of iron, and all of it probably, when exposed to intense heat, would show the presence of sulphur. Some of them, especially the largest and most southerly one, have often proved beneficial in cutaneous diseases; and in cases of poison, they are said, when drunken freely and used for washing the affected part, to afford a very speedy and certain cure. When the water about these springs shall be so drained off, that they can be thoroughly tested, they may yet be turned to a valuable account.

CHAPTER IX.

SETTLEMENT OF THE VILLAGE—ABISHA WASHBURN—PAINTER'S MILLS—FOOT'S MILLS—HOP JOHNSON—COL. STORRS—PAINTER IN THE VILLAGE—FIRST STORE—SAMUEL MILLER—S. DUDLEY—B. GORTON—JOHN DEMING—S. FOOT—B. SEYMOUR—M. POST.

IN the year 1774 or 1775, Abisha Washburn, of Salisbury, Conn., undertook to take possession of the water power on the east side of the falls. He did not come within the conditions of the vote of the proprietors in March 1765, one of which was that the saw mill should be built within "fifteen months." But, in consequence of some subsequent vote or the general understanding of the proprietors, it seems to have been considered by him and others, that building a saw mill would give him a claim to the privilege and the lands adjoining. The adjoining lot was called the mill lot, even before the survey of Judge Painter. Washburn did not bring his family here, but spent one summer in getting up a saw mill on the falls. Whether it was put in operation we have not ascertained. He returned to Salisbury in the fall, and the revolutionary war then threatening, or having commenced, the authorities of Massachusetts engaged him to undertake the casting of cannon at Salisbury, for their use. He did not therefore return to Middlebury until after the war. In the meantime, his mill, whatever it was, was destroyed by the Indians. Some of these facts we have obtained from Miss Bradley and Mrs. Horace Loomis of Burlington, both grand daughters of Mr. Washburn. This was the beginning of operations in the village, and the only one before the war.

In the spring of 1784, Washburn returned for the purpose of re-building his mill, and by the aid of Col. Chipman and Judge Painter, a new mill was completed and put in operation in 1785.

but was swept away by the succeeding spring freshet. Afterwards, by an arrangement between Washburn and Judge Painter, the latter secured the privileges which Washburn was understood to possess, and pitched for himself the fifty acre lot, including the falls, called the "mill lot," and for Washburn another fifty acres, south and east of his own, which he soon purchased. Neither of these pitches was founded on any claim for building the mill, but were probably a part of the arrangement, in the transfer of the supposed claim. These pitches embrace the whole of the village east of the creek and south of Hyde's pitch, afterwards occupied by Freeman Foot as his farm. Painter, soon after, proceeded to erect mills, and in 1787 had put in operation a saw mill. and in 1788 a grist mill. The former was built on the rock at the head of the falls, near where the present grist mill is, and the latter partly below it.

In the meantime, in 1783, John Hobson Johnson,—more generally known as Hop Johnson,—built a cabin, at the head of the rapids on the west side of the creek, then in Cornwall, a little below the abutment of the rail road bridge, on that side of the river. This was the stopping place for all travellers on the creek, and he kept a ferry and a place of refreshment for them. He continued his possession and business here until about the year 1789, when he left the country for "parts unknown," leaving his wife and several children in possession of his house and ferry.

After Daniel Foot discovered the failure of his title under the Weybridge charter, he purchased the right of pitching under the charter of Cornwall, and laid out one hundred acres, embracing the whole of the falls on Cornwall side, extending about forty rods south of them to the "old Weybridge corner;" and the same year 1784, erected a large building, sufficient to accommodate a saw mill and grist mill. The former went into operation in July, and the latter in November, 1785. Until a short time previous to the completion of this grist mill, the inhabitants were obliged to go to Pittsford for their grinding. The grain was taken in boats, or on rafts up the creek, to Pittsford. A few weeks before Foot's mill was in operation, Col. Sawyer had completed a grist mill on Leicester River, at Salisbury village, and, during that time, the resort was to his mill.

Mr. Foot soon gave up the possession of his mills and lands in Cornwall to his sons, Stillman Foot and John Foot, and in 1789 deeded to them his mill lot, with mills and other buildings and improvements. Previous to this, one or more small buildings near the mills had been erected; and Stillman Foot, in 1786, had erected a dwelling house for his own family, which is the oldest dwelling house of any description now remaining, and is the dwelling house, with considerable alterations and additions, occupied by Daniel Henshaw, for many years, and which is now occupied by J. S. Bushnell, Esq., his son-in-law.

About the year 1791, John Foot sold his share of the property in Cornwall to his brother Appleton Foot; but remained in the village two or three years. In July 1794, Stillman and Appleton divided their property in Cornwall, and arranged between themselves the privileges of the water, which they had before held in common. Stillman took the upper part of the falls, where the woolen factory now is, extending to the bridge, and Appleton the privilege below his, and the land on the creek north of the road leading west across the college or academy common, and extending north to the north line of the mill lot. Stillman took the land up the creek, south to Col. Storrs' land and extending west over part of the college common.

About this time Appleton Foot built a dwelling house for his family, on the ground where the brick house now stands, occupied by Dr. Nathaniel Harris. In this he resided until he removed from town. Stillman Foot had a grist mill where the stone part of the woolen factory stands, and a saw mill further up stream, on the rocks back of the dry house. He built also a small house for his miller on his mill yard. Appleton built a stone grist mill and a saw mill just below Stillman's mills, and a part of what was called his mill house, now owned by the woolen factory company.

The first tenements, on the west side of the creek, were built along its western bank. A few rods south of Hop Johnson's house, James Bentley senior, father of Johnson's wife, built a small house, in which he lived after the war. On the lot now occupied by Mr. Bushnell was a small house called the Judd house, built by Stillman Foot for the use of his workmen, and on the lot occupied by

the widow of Judge Phelps, a small house called the "Red house," which was afterwards moved to the ridge south of Mr. Davenport's. Mrs. McLeod, a daughter of Capt. Ebenezer Markham, to whom we shall again refer, says, that, when a child, she often, in her rambles, saw the foundations of these several houses. She says also, that there was then a road to the creek from where Mrs. Cutter's house stands. Simeon Dudley, who was employed in building Foot's mills in 1785, erected a temporary shanty on the site now occupied by Mrs. Phelps, in which he lived two years without chimney or cellar.

Col. Seth Storrs, who had been in the practice of law at Addison, removed to Middlebury in 1794, after the courts were established here. We mention his settlement in this place, in anticipation of the details of our history, because he became one of the principal owners, who sold to others the lands, which now constitute the village west of the creek. Among other lands, he purchased the farm, on which he afterwards resided until his death, extending from the north line of his house lot and garden south to the home farm of the late Judge Phelps, and from the creek west to the top of the hill, and embracing the land where the college buildings stand, a large part of the academy common, and the residences on the streets included in these limits. He first resided in a gambrel roof house, built by John Foot, on the site of the present brick house, recently owned and occupied by Edward Wainwright, afterward by Samuel Shepard, and now by George C. Chapman. On this site he built in 1801 and 1802 the handsome frame house, which was burnt in 1831; and during the progress of erecting this, his gambrel roof house was removed off the ground and occupied by his family. After the destruction of the wooden house, the present brick house was erected by Professor Turner, his son-in-law, and was occupied by him and his family, with Col. Storrs and his family, until the death of each.

Col. Seth Storrs was a native of Mansfield, Conn., born June 24, 1756. He was educated at Yale College, and was graduated in 1778. After he left college, he was for several years associated with Rev. Timothy Dwight, D. D. in the instruction of a public

seminary at Northampton Mass. Soon after the close of the war he came to Vermont, then opening an inviting field for the enterprise of young men, and pursued his professional studies in the office of the Hon. Noah Smith in Bennington. Having received license, he located himself in Addison in this county in 1787. The county had been incorporated in the fall of 1785, but the first court was held in the spring of 1786. Addison, at the time, was the most prominent settlement in the county. He continued in that place until he removed to Middlebury. While he resided in Addison, he boarded in the family of Hon John Strong, the first chief judge of the county court, and was married to his daughter. We believe he was the first lawyer, who settled in the county, except Samuel Chipman, a brother of Hon. Daniel Chipman, who was licensed the year previous and settled in Vergennes. Col. Storrs was appointed in 1787 the first state's attorney, and was annually appointed to that office for the next ten years. After his removal to Middlebury, he continued in successful practice here. He was also among the most active in counselling and contributing to measures to advance the prosperity of the village. He was forward in promoting the establishment of our literary institutions. In his deed, executed jointly with others, he conveyed to the corporation of Addison County Grammar School a large share of the land, on which the building of that institution was erected, together with the extensive common connected with it. When the location of the college was removed, and the stone college built, he contributed the whole tract, which forms the handsome grounds of that institution. He was constituted by the charters, a member of both these corporations.

From the time of his settlement here, Col. Storrs was an active supporter of the religious institutions of the place, especially of the Congregational church and society, to which he immediately attached himself, and was one of the first regularly chosen deacons of the former. In the later years of his life, he was more generally employed in various offices of trust, than in the labors of his profession. He was many years town clerk, and clerk of the Congregational church and society, and was moderator and on committees in each.

Col. Storrs was a gentleman of what has been called the "old

school," and no man was better entitled to the designation, which we have heard applied to him, of a "Christian gentleman." He died at Vergennes, while on a visit to his friends in that place, on the 5th of October 1842, at the age of 71 years.

After the completion of Daniel Foot's first mills, Simeon Dudley was employed by Painter in erecting his mills. In 1787, he commenced the erection, near the grounds of the Addison House, of a shanty similar to that which he occupied on the west side, which took fire and was consumed before its completion. He then commenced the erection of a more permanent building, which Judge Painter purchased, remodeled and prepared for his own residence. It was on ground now the front yard of Mrs. Wainwright's present dwelling, near the south line. To this house, in the fall of 1787, he removed his family from his farm in the south part of the town, and resided in it until the completion of his new house in 1802.

At that time the whole region was covered with a thick and gloomy forest of hemlock and pine, except small spaces about the mills and small tenements, which had been erected. At the first Christmas after his settlement here, he invited the settlers to a Christmas dinner. Col. Sumner, who had just settled on his farm two miles north, Freeman Foot, who had built a house just north of the village, Stephen Goodrich and his sons on the Bass farm, the Foots and their workmen on the west side of the creek, and his own workmen, were the only near neighbors. But his invitations were probably extended further. Whatever the numbers may have been, the company, as is common in all new countries, probably had a merry time. Samuel Bartholomew,, who resided in Cornwall, was a man of some eccentricities, and given to rhyming, on extraordinary occasions. He had early planted an orchard of sweet apples, which became a common resort for the young folks to buy and eat apples, and he was therefore called the "Apple man." Among his eccentricities, he never wore shoes in the summer, except when he went to church, as he sometimes did in this village. On such occasions he carried his shoes in his hand until he arrived among the inhabitants, and then put them on and walked to the place of meeting. These incidents relate to a later period of his life. This

entertainment being a proper subject for his muse, he composed the following doggerel verses on the occasion.

“ This place, called Middlebury Falls
Is like a city without walls.
Surrounded 'tis by hemlock trees
Which shut out all its enemies.
The powwow now on Christmas day,
Which much resembled Indian play,
I think will never be forgotten
Till all the hemlock trees are rotten.”

This effusion, which never before had the honor to be put in type, was repeated to us by Mrs. Severance, before mentioned, who we think, was one of the guests at the entertainment.

When Judge Painter became settled here, with his usual sagacity, he adopted his plans to make this a village and place of business of some importance. For this purpose he adopted a liberal plan for the disposition of his lands to settlers. His first deed of one acre, where the Addison House stands, was given to Simcon Dudley, on the 10th of September 1788; but no building was erected on it until Samuel Mattocks built his tavern house in 1794.

In January 1789, Painter deeded to Benjamin Gorton of Hudson N. Y., a small piece of land, below and adjoining the bridge, being the land on which the brick store of Gen. Nash was recently burnt, and on which Mr. Cobb has recently erected a large building for his printing office, and including the land on which Mr. Wood's meat room stood. Gorton was uncle to Jabez Rogers, Jun., and although he never resided in Middlebury, was extensively connected with him, as a partner, in real estate and the various enterprises, in which Rogers was subsequently engaged. On this lot Rogers soon erected a building and opened a store, which was understood to be the first store in the county. In 1796 he was succeeded by Sisson, Dibble and Sherrill; and in 1800 Benjamin Seymour purchased the building and occupied a part of it, as a residence for his family, and a part for his hatter's shop. Here Mr. Seymour prosecuted for several years his business as a hatter, and afterwards exchanged it for that of a merchant. A small piece of this lot was afterwards purchased by Nathan Wood, who owned the mill, and

the mill building was extended over it, and at the same time John Seymour, son of Benjamin, built the brick store, afterwards owned by Gen. Nash.

On the point of rock, which extended farther into the creek, Rogers erected a small separate building, which was occupied for several years by Samuel Sargeant as a silver smith shop. This was removed during the enterprise for removing the obstructions to the free passage of the water over the falls.* Sargeant thereupon put up the brick building on the east side of the falls, on the point formed by the two roads around the park, and removed his shop there.

In September 1789, Painter deeded to Samuel Miller Esq. a half acre lot, on which he afterwards lived, and in December following, the meadow east of it. Miller had that year, before receiving his deed, put up an office, to which he afterwards built a front; and occupied the whole as a dwelling house until the time of his death. The house was afterwards purchased by Edward D. Barber, repaired and altered and occupied by him and until recently belonged to his estate, and was occupied by Professor Robbins, and has lately been purchased and is now occupied by Mr. Z. Beckwith.

Samuel Miller was the first lawyer, who settled in Middlebury, and was among the most distinguished citizens, who have had a residence here. He was born in Springfield, Mass., April 2, 1764.

*Large tracts of low lands or swamps on the borders of the creek above the falls, were overflowed in the spring and other large freshets, and on account of the sluggishness of the stream and the obstructions at the falls, the water remained so long on the lands as seriously to injure them. The rocks at the falls made a complete dam, and rendered an artificial one unnecessary. The channels for the water to the mills were cut through the rocks. The owners of the lands, in order to remove the obstructions to the free passage of the water, in 1806 entered into a contract with the mill owners to lower their water courses. The legislature, at their session in 1804, had granted a tax on the lands to the amount of two thousand dollars to pay the expense. Much of the land was sold for the tax, and is still held under that title. This measure did not satisfy the land owners, and further expense was incurred in reducing the channel at the head of the rapids; and among other obstructions, which needed to be removed, was the rock on which Sargeant's shop stood. For this purpose it was exchanged, in 1822 for the ground on which he erected his new shop. This point was not included in Painter's deed for a common, but was reserved as a part of his mill yard, and by his will became the property of the corporation of Middlebury College, and by their agent deeded to Mr. Sargeant.

He came into the State in 1785, and resided in Wallingford. He never had the advantages of a collegiate education; but this deficiency was well supplied by superior talents and a thirst for knowledge, which he early manifested. Independent of all external aid, he set himself to work to build up a character and influence by his own native energies. Before coming to Vermont he had made himself acquainted with some of the sciences, especially mathematics in its various branches. One object in devoting himself to this science probably was to qualify himself, as a thorough practical surveyor in this new country. In this department, he was to some extent employed after he came to this place. But he aimed at a position of higher influence. Soon after he came into the State he entered upon the study of the law and was licensed in the County of Rutland. Immediately after, he located himself in Middlebury, when the site of the village was almost a wilderness.

Mr. Miller had a mind of unusual activity and vigor, and of very quick and discriminating perceptions. He immediately entered upon an extensive practice, not only in this county, but in the western counties of the State, north and south of it. While he lived, he and Daniel Chipman occupied a similar rank, and stood at the head of the profession, in the several counties where they practiced. In these counties they were engaged in all the important disputed causes, together or in opposition. In his addresses to the jury, Mr. Miller's enunciation was rather rapid, but his argument was systematic, clear and forcible.

Mr. Miller was disinclined to enter into public life, but was known and had an extensive influence through the State. He was elected a representative to the General Assembly in 1797, and was a prominent and influential member. He had then been in town only eight years, and previous to that time Judge Painter had been the only representative, except one year. A leading politician of the opposite party, proposed to him to become their candidate for governor, with the assurance, that, in that case, he would be elected. But he declined, and we are not aware that he ever held any other public office in the State. His manners were courteous and gentlemanly, and he was rather insinuating in his address. He was everywhere

recognized as a gentleman. While the prominent men of Middlebury were urgently pressing, before the legislature and elsewhere, the claims of their town, it was remarked by a politician of that day, that "the influence of Painter with his cunning, Chipman with his argument, and Miller with his courteous address, "if it were possible, would deceive the very elect."

Mr. Miller, like other prominent citizens, was devoted to the prosperity of the village, which he had adopted as his home, and liberally contributed to build up its institutions by his influence and money. He was especially active in procuring a charter for Middlebury College, and in raising that institution to a state of prosperity. Among other contributions he gave one thousand dollars to establish the first professorship. By the charter of that corporation, he was constituted one of its first members. He was no less devoted and active in sustaining the institutions of religion here and elsewhere. He was liberal, especially in his support of the Congregational Society in its weakness and trials. When the legislature removed the foundation on which that and similar societies were formed, and left the support of religion entirely to voluntary association, he afforded efficient aid in the organization and prosperity of the new society. In the year 1805, he united himself more closely to its interests, by becoming a member of the church. His co-operation in all measures to promote the prosperity of the church and society was efficient and influential. In his will he left a legacy of one thousand dollars, the income of which was to be appropriated annually for the support of the gospel in the society, and five hundred dollars to the Vermont Missionary Society.

On the 7th of October 1790, the next year after he commenced the practice of law in this place, Mr. Miller was married to Rebecca Mattocks, daughter of Hon. Samuel Mattocks, then residing in Tinmouth, and for many years treasurer of the state, and sister of Samuel Mattocks Jun. a distinguished citizen of this town. She was worthy of him, and made his home the centre of his affections.

Some years before his death, Mr. Miller was afflicted with a cancerous sore, on one of his legs, which increased in virulence from year to year. No remedies checked its progress. He consulted

the most skillful surgeons, and among these, Dr. Nathan Smith then professor of Dartmouth College. He advised amputation as the only hope of avoiding a fatal termination, and he performed the painful operation. But it was inefficient as a remedy. The cancer broke out in another part of his body, and terminated his life on the 17th day of April 1810. His widow survived him many years, in her quiet and unostentatious acts of benevolence, and in leading others, by her influence and example, in every good work.

Hon. John Mattocks of Peacham, late governor of Vermont, and Hon. William Mattocks of Danville, were also brothers of Mrs. Miller, and pursued their professional studies under the tuition of Mr. Miller.

John Deming from Canaan Conn., purchased of Judge Painter ten acres, extending north from the south east corner of the Congregational church to the north line of the mill lot, and west from the same bounds to the west line of the late Hon. Horatio Seymour's garden, and the north end extending west in a narrow strip to the creek, thus forming an L. On this strip stands the house once occupied by Ozias Seymour, south of the house in which he now resides. Deming at the same time purchased of Asa Fuller an additional tract, north of the above, on the west side of the paper mill road. In order to bring together the several settlements on this early purchase of Mr. Deming, with as little confusion as possible, we shall be compelled to anticipate the dates of our history.

Deming was a blacksmith, and erected a building designed for his shop on the ground now occupied by Mr. Seymour's house. This he divided into two rooms for the residence of his family, while he was building a larger house for their accommodation. While he was residing in this building, the town nominated him as a tavern keeper, the duties of which he undertook to discharge, as best he could. One night his guests amounted to twenty-five, belonging to families moving into the country, and they all stopped for breakfast. Miss Althea Deming his daughter, from whom we received these details, was born in the same house.

In 1790 Mr. Deming erected a large house on the ground now occupied by the Congregational church, the first two story house in

the village, and said, at the time, to be the largest house in the County. In this he lived and continued his tavern until the fall of 1794. In the meantime, in 1792 he sold to George Sloan, also a blacksmith, a small tract, on which stood the small house built for a blacksmith shop. He subsequently resided in Salisbury about a dozen years, and afterwards in Middlebury until 1813, when he removed to Crown Point, where he died in 1815, at the age of fifty-three. His widow and family then returned to Middlebury, and occupied the house, which he built during his last residence, on Seminary street, where his daughter Althea still resides. Here Mrs. Deming died in 1841 at the age of eighty-four.

Samuel Foot in 1794 purchased and took possession of the premises left by Mr. Deming, and continued to occupy them until 1803. In the meantime he added to his land on the west side of the paper mill road a small tract, extending north and including Mr. Seymour's farm house. While in possession of the lands purchased of Deming, Foot sold, in 1797, to Dr. Joseph Clark, a small building lot next north of the houses now owned by Dr. Allen, where Clark built the two story house, in which he opened and kept a tavern, which has since been owned successively by Dr. William G. Hooker, Charles Bowen and others and is now owned by Mr. Bellows of Walpole. In 1799, he sold to William Coon the lot on which John Jackson now resides, occupying a part of the house for his residence and a part for his hat store. The south half of the house had been previously built and used for a school house. The north part was built by Hiram Seymour, a hatter from Canada, who resided here during the last British war. Foot had previously sold to Jonathan Nichols Jun. the lot next north of the last mentioned. On this lot Nichols moved a blacksmith shop and fitted it up for the residence of his father, Jonathan Nichols senior, who, after a short residence, resided with his son-in-law Billy Manning until his death in 1814, at the age of eighty-seven. Edward Eells, a goldsmith, afterwards owned this lot, resided on it several years and built the present two story house now occupied by Mr. Parker Cleveland. The old blacksmith shop, in the meantime, was removed to the south side of the lot, and is still occupied as a residence.

The land which Foot owned on the west side of the paper mill road he sold in 1802 to Hon. Horatio Seymour, and the premises connected with his tavern stand in 1803, to Landon Case from Addison. He then removed to Crown Point, in company with his brother-in-law Lewis McDonald. While Mr. Foot remained in town he kept a public house, but was principally employed in the duties of deputy sheriff.

Olcutt White in 1807 purchased of Loudon Case a lot north of the church on the New Haven road, on which had been previously built the south half of the building now standing there, and afterwards White built the north half. In this building he carried on the business of book binding, and had a small book store. It is now owned by Dr. Charles L. Allen, and the apartments are rented to various persons.

Mr. Seymour afterwards became the owner of all the lands on the west side of the paper mill road, and from him was derived the title to the numerous lots now occupied there for residences. The following are a few of the earlier lots disposed of by him. In 1803 he appropriated for a female seminary the lot, on which his son, Ozias Seymour Esq. lives. The two story building standing on it was that year built and for several years used for a female school, but is now fitted up for a residence. This lot Mr. Seymour deeded in 1806 to the corporation of Addison County Grammar School, for the use of a female seminary. In 1803 Benjamin Seymour purchased the lot on which he built the small brick house now owned by Gen. Nash. To this he removed his family, and resided in it until his death, but continued his business at the old stand below the bridge. In 1808 Martin Post Esq. an attorney settled in Cornwall, who had then been appointed clerk of the county court, purchased the lot next north of the Female Seminary. Mr. Post built here the small house, which forms the kitchen of Dr. Moody's house. He died in 1811, at the age of thirty-two. He left a widow and several small children, two of whom are living and are Rev. Martin M. Post, a clergyman of standing in Indiana and Rev. Truman M. Post, D. D., of St. Louis Missouri.

CHAPTER X.

DARIUS MATTHEWS—CURTIS AND CAMPBELL—DR. WILLARD—H. SEYMOUR—D. CHIPMAN—J. ROGERS—A. RHODES—L. AND J. M'DONALD—S. MATTOCKS—W. YOUNG—F. HILL—DR. CLARK—N. AND I. STEWART—SEMINARY STREET—SLADE AND CO.—J. SIMMONS.

DARIUS MATTHEWS settled in Middlebury in 1789 as a physician, and the year following purchased of Judge Painter the lot next north of Samuel Miller's, and the same year built a small house, which constitutes the kitchen of Mrs. Merrill's residence. In November of the same year, he was married to Abigail Porter, daughter of Judge Porter of Tinmouth, and sister of the late Rev. Ebenezer Porter, D. D., professor and president of Andover Theological Seminary. He resided in this place until 1797, when he purchased of Col. Seth Storrs, an acre of land, on which he built the house afterwards occupied by Ethan Andrus, Esq. The lot is now owned by Jason Davenport, and is the site of his new dwelling house.

Hon. Darius Matthews was the second physician who settled in Middlebury, and among the most respectable of the early settlers. He was born in Cheshire, Conn., December 17, 1766. At the age of thirteen he removed to Tinmouth, in Rutland County, and having a fondness for study and perseverance in the pursuit of learning, he had obtained a sufficient education to engage in the responsible duties of school teaching at the age of fourteen. By the same persevering disposition and efforts, he made himself sufficiently acquainted with the science of medicine, under the tuition of Dr. Marvin of Tinmouth, to be licensed to practice at the age of twenty-one. At that age he commenced the practice of his profession in Salisbury,

but removed to Middlebury in 1789. In 1798, he was appointed clerk of the Supreme Court, in 1801 judge of probate for the District of Addison, which then embraced the whole County, and in 1803, clerk of the County Court. From this time he relinquished the practice of his profession, and devoted his attention to the faithful and very satisfactory discharge of the duties of his several offices. He continued in the offices of Judge of Probate and clerk of the Supreme Court until his death, and in the office of clerk the County Court until 1808. In that year he exchanged his house and lot in Middlebury for the farm of Ethan Andrus, Esq., in Cornwall, now occupied by his son, Rev. Lyman Matthews. He was elected a representative of Cornwall in the legislature from 1811 to 1817 inclusive. By the charter of Middlebury College, he was made one of the original members of that corporation, and continued a judicious and useful member and friend and helper of that institution until the close of his life. He was a member the Religious Congregational Church and Society in Middlebury as well as in Cornwall, and everywhere a firm advocate and supporter of religious and literary institutions. He was somewhat reserved in his conversation and manners, and possessed an uncommonly cool and deliberate judgment, and a conservative disposition. By these traits he exerted, in all his relations, an extensive and salutary influence. He died Oct. 8, 1819, at the age of fifty-three years.

Curtis and Campbell purchased the house first built by Dr. Matthews and built the two story front. The south end was used for their store, and the remainder was occupied by Campbell for a residence. Their business was continued until the spring of 1801, when their partnership was dissolved. Daniel Campbell then took into partnership his brother William Campbell, and the business was continued in their name for several years: and in 1804 they purchased the lot of Judge Painter where his grist miller's house stood and built the brick store now standing in the rear of the present Stewart store, and now occupied by Chapman and Barbour. In 1807 Dr. Merrill purchased Campbell's house and resided in it until his death in 1855, and it is now occupied by his widow.

Campbell's brick store was purchased by David Page, Jun. and

Luke Wheelock, under the firm of Page and Wheelock, and by them in 1812 sold to Noble and Ira Stewart. Page and Wheelock were from Jaffrey New Hampshire, and in this building, they carried on extensively the mercantile business for several years. While thus engaged, Mr. Wheelock visited Montreal, on business, and took the small pox, and on his return was seized with that disease and died on the 9th of April, 1810. This establishment was succeeded, under different names and by different persons, who had been in some way connected with the above. Joseph Hough and Nathan Wood, who had been clerks to Mr. Page, prosecuted the business for some time, and the late Jonathan Wheelock, brother of Luke Wheelock, was also for a time connected in the concern. All these have since been engaged in other business. Mr. Wood only has continued permanently in the mercantile business, and occupied the store in front of the mill until it was burnt.

Dr. John Willard was the first physician who settled in Middlebury. He came to this place about the year 1787. When he commenced practice the town was almost wholly a wilderness, and the roads, which had been opened, were nearly impassable, especially in muddy seasons. But he continued an extensive practice until he was called to the discharge of other duties. He resided first in a house built by Freeman Foot, on the south side of his farm, afterwards owned by Daniel Chipman. In 1791 he purchased of Judge Painter a small lot, next north of the tavern lot sold to Simeon Dudley, and built a house just back of the present bank building. Here he lived until 1797, when he sold it to Samuel Mattocks, and purchased of Stillman Foot the lot on which the late Judge Phelps resided. There was on it, at the time, a small house built by John Foot, and occupied by him as a dwelling house. Here Dr. Willard resided until, some years after, he built the brick house on the Cornwall road, which constituted the late elegant homestead of Charles Linsley, Esq. In 1801, under the administration of Mr. Jefferson, he was appointed marshal of the District of Vermont. In this office he continued until 1810. After this appointment he relinquished principally the practice of his profession. But, in the meantime, he became distinguished as a politician. He was for several years



JOHN H. HARRIS

J. J. Harrell



at the head of the organization of the Republican party, as chairman of its central committee. No man at that time probably had as much influence in controlling the measures of the party as he. On the establishment of the Vermont State Bank in 1806, he was appointed one of the directors and continued in that office, until the Branch at Middlebury was closed. In 1812, Dr. Willard was appointed and officiated as Sheriff of the County.

Dr. Willard was born in 1759 at the town, then known as East Guilford, now Madison, Conn. His father, Capt. John Willard, a ship master, died when he was a child, and he was left in the care of his mother, and aided in carrying on her small farm. Not liking the drudgery of a farmer's boy, he went to sea. Toward the close of the revolutionary war he was taken by the British, on board an American privateer, and confined in, and subjected to the horrors of, the Jersey prison ship, lying at Walabout Bay. After he was released and had regained the health and strength, which he had lost in prison, he received the appointment of quartermaster in a Connecticut regiment of volunteers. At the close of the war, he entered upon the study of medicine under the tuition of Dr. Jonathan Todd, the principal physician in his native place. He had before had the limited advantages for education, of only a few months each year, at a district school in his childhood. But he was fond of study and made the most of the advantages he enjoyed. As an introduction to his medical studies, he pursued, to a limited extent, classical studies with the pastor of the parish. After completing his medical studies, he settled in the practice as before stated. In August 1809 he was married to Miss Emma Hart, then principal of the Female Seminary here, and who has since become distinguished in that department. After she opened her school at their residence, he co-operated with her in building it up and sustaining it. Having greater encouragement from friends in the State of New York, they removed their residence and school to Waterford in 1819, and two years afterwards to Troy. Dr. Willard's death took place May 25, 1825, at the age of sixty-six years.

In 1791, Elias Wilder a hatter, purchased of Judge Painter the lot next west of the land purchased by Deming, on which the

Brewster brick building stands. Here he built a house and shop, and continued his business about two years.

In the same year, Jabez Rogers, Jun., purchased a lot west of the Wilder lot, extending west on the common to the west line of the rail-road, north to the northern strip of land purchased by Deming, and just north of the old house last occupied by Rogers, and west to the creek, embracing the land and rocks around and below the eddy. He also purchased the Wilder lot. On these lots he built the old house above mentioned, and in 1800, for the purpose of accommodating boarders attending the legislature that year, he erected the two story house, which was removed to make room for the rail road, next west of Brewster's block. He, at a later day, built the large brick house, north of Mr. Seymour's, now owned by Dr. William P. Russel. At an early day he established on the borders of the eddy, a brewery, distillery and potash, which he conducted for several years, in company with his brother-in-law, Lebeus Harris, father of the present Dr. Nathaniel Harris, a surgeon dentist. The elder Mr. Harris died in 1814, aged fifty years, and Mr. Rogers in 1816, at the age of seventy-five.

In the year 1793, the lot on which the brick house stands, now occupied by Nathan Wood, and extending to the creek, was purchased by Anthony Rhodes, who that year settled in Middlebury as a merchant. The year following, he purchased a small piece lying between the above and the south line of the common, and built on these lots a dwelling house, out houses and a potash. His house was near where the office of Mr. Starr stands. This he occupied until the fall of 1796. He then purchased about three acres on the corner made by the Cornwall and Weybridge roads. This lot was a part of the premises of Appleton Foot, and had been purchased the year before by Nehemiah Lawrence, who had put up on the land and partly finished the house now owned by Professor Twining. Rhodes finished the north part of the house for a residence, and the south part for a store, where he continued his business for a time, and in 1798 built a store on the lot where the Episcopal rectory stands, and removed his business there. In 1801 Rhodes sold his house to Ep. Jones, closed his business and left the State. He was

the father of Holden Rhodes, who was educated at Middlebury College, and became a lawyer of standing in Virginia, and of Mrs. Chipman wife of Hon. George Chipman, now of the city of Washington.

The lot, which Rhodes purchased of Lawrence, extended north and included the two house lots of Amon Wilcox, and the house lot of Dr. Z. Bass. The southern of these lots was sold by Rhodes to William Baker, for many years the principal mason in the village, in 1801, who built the present house, the others to Ruluff and Benjamin Lawrence. Benjamin Lawrence built the two houses now occupied by Mr. Wilcox and Dr. Bass. Mr. Wilcox settled in Middlebury at an early day, and has been a successful manufacturer and dealer in tin and copper ware, and dealer in stoves and corresponding articles.

Mr. Ep. Jones occupied the house, purchased of Rhodes, for a tenement and store for several years, and moved to Lake Dunmore, where he established his large glass factory, and when that exploded, went to the west and established himself at New Albany, Indiana.

Ep. Miller in 1796 purchased the premises left by Anthony Rhodes, on the east side of the creek, occupied the house built by him, and established a tannery on the bank of the creek, which he carried on for many years. He afterwards built on the premises the large brick house occupied by Mr. Wood, a large three story building, which was removed to make room for the rail road and the house under the hill lately owned by Dr. Brockway, now by Mrs. Adalin Lagro. He afterwards purchased the farm and beautiful site where Mr. Chipman's house was burnt, and erected the brick house now owned by Mr. S. B. Rockwell. Here he resided until his death in 1850, in his eightieth year.

Lewis and Joseph McDonald, from Litchfield, Conn., came to Middlebury in 1793, and purchased the small lot, which John Deming had sold to George Sloan, and on the land now constituting Mr. Seymour's garden, erected a gambrel roof building, which they used for their store, while Lewis McDonald occupied the old house for his residence. Here they prosecuted a successful mercantile business until 1801, when they closed their business and divided

their property. In the meantime, they had purchased several pieces of land, on the north side of the road running west from the college, extending from the top of the hill westward and forming a valuable farm. In the division of their property Joseph took this farm, went into possession of the house, which had been before built by Winant Williamson, on land purchased of him, and which is now occupied by Abraham L. Williamson. Here he prosecuted the business of farming until 1828, when he returned to the village, purchased the house and lot on Weybridge street, now owned by Orin Abbey, and resided there until the time of his death in 1854 at the age of 84 years. About the year 1818, Lewis McDonald returned to the village purchased the lot and house now owned by Richard Southwell, on the Cornwall street, and resided there until his death in 1839 at the age of 72 years.

Mr. Seymour purchased the lot, which had been the place of business of Lewis and Joseph McDonald, and occupied the house for the residence of his family. In 1816 and 1817, he replaced it by the present large brick house, in which he afterwards resided until his death. The old house at the time was removed to the lot next south of the old Female Seminary building, and was for many years the residence of Ozias Seymour, Esq.

Hon. Horatio Seymour, LL. D., was born at Litchfield, Conn., May 31, 1778. He was the son of Major Moses Seymour and Mrs. Mary [Marsh] Seymour. His father was a respectable citizen of that place, was in the war of the Revolution, represented the town in the State Legislature, much of the time from 1795 to 1812, and was town clerk for nearly forty years. The subject of this notice pursued his studies preparatory to entering college, at New Milford, under the tuition of his brother-in-law, Rev. Truman Marsh, then located in that place. He was graduated at Yale College in 1797. The following year he spent as an assistant teacher in the Academy at Cheshire, Conn.: the second he spent in the study of law, at Judge Reeve's law school in Litchfield. In October 1799 he came to Middlebury, and continued his professional studies in the office of Hon. Daniel Chipman. In the spring of 1800, he was licensed to practice law, and, in competition with several distinguished



Horatio Seymour



and older lawyers, such as Daniel Chipman, Samuel Miller and others, entered immediately into an extensive practice, and rose rapidly in general estimation, as a man and as a lawyer. He did not seek to extend his practice to other counties, but in the County of Addison, no other lawyer, we believe, ever had so extensive a business, or was engaged, at the same time, in so many causes in the different courts. While building his large and very expensive brick house, in 1816 and 1817, he expressed to the writer of this notice, his regret to lay out so great an expenditure on a house, but stated, as some alleviation, that his income during those two years was sufficient to meet the expense. Notwithstanding his talents, which were of a superior order, and his thorough knowledge of the law, he was probably no little indebted for his success, to his great popularity as a man. His career as a lawyer was uninterrupted until the spring of 1821.

In the meantime, in December 1800, the same year in which he was admitted to the bar, Mr. Seymour was appointed postmaster, and continued in the office for nine years, but, for much of the time, on account of the pressure of his professional business, he committed the personal superintendence, with its income, to other hands. When the Vermont State Bank was established at the session of the legislature in 1806, he was chosen one of its first directors, and continued in that office until the branch at Middlebury was closed. In 1809, he was elected by the people a member of the Executive Council, and was annually re-elected for the five following years. In October 1820, he was elected, by the legislature, to the Senate of the United States, the duties of the office to commence on the 4th of March, 1821. At the close of his first term he was re-elected for a second. This of course was an interruption to his professional pursuits. At the close of his second term in 1833, he returned to the practice of law. This he continued until a few years since, when his infirmities forced him to retire from it.

The corporation of Yale College, at the commencement in 1847, the fiftieth anniversary of his graduation, conferred on him the honorary degree of LL. D.

Mr. Seymour was constitutionally diffident and distrustful of him-

self. So far from seeking for office, we think he never accepted one but with reluctance and through the solicitation of his friends. Many years ago he stated to the writer the following incident. At the time of his graduation, the faculty of the college assigned him an oration as a part of the public exercises. His diffidence forbade his undertaking such an exhibition before such an audience, and he went to Dr. Dwight the president, of whom he always spoke with high respect, and requested to be excused. The president urged him with various encouragements and arguments to perform his part. But all in vain. Mr. Seymour told him it would be impossible; that he could not go through with it; and that, if he could not be excused, he must take a dismission from college. At length the Doctor consented to excuse him. This trait undoubtedly influenced him in the discharge of his senatorial duties. He did not feel called, by a sense of duty, among so many distinguished senators, so ready to speak, to make a display, which his distrust of himself forbade. He was greatly respected for his sound but modest opinions, and his influence, though silent and unobtrusive, was generally recognized in the senate. His intimate friends and associates were among the most distinguished men connected with the government, such as Adams, King, Clay, Webster and Marcy. But he did not often make any formal address in the Senate. It was otherwise when he acted in the capacity of an advocate. The rights and interests of his clients had been intrusted to him, and he had engaged for their defence, and no personal feelings could justify his neglect. In his addresses to the court or jury, he made no attempts at display, but, in his quiet and modest way, poured forth a powerful and comprehensive argument, which his opposing counsel found it difficult to meet, and introduced points in the case, which had not occurred to them. He had great ingenuity and tact in the management of his causes.

As a politician, Mr. Seymour was a friend and supporter of the administration of Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison. When party lines were disturbed at the close of the war, and at the end of Mr. Monroe's administration, several candidates were presented, reckoned as belonging to the same party, he advocated the election of

Mr. Adams, and adhered to what was known as his party, and was always a decided whig. But, in whatever party he was classed, he scrupulously adhered to the principles he had adopted, whatever tempting advances were made to him to deviate from them. He would never be led into a measure which he thought wrong, at the bidding of his party. In the discharge of all his official duties, he exhibited unusual impartiality, and he has been known to oppose the general wishes of his party, when they did not accord with his own views of right.

Mr. Seymour was humble and unassuming, in all his positions and intercourse among men. He made no claims to distinction on account of his own standing. In his intercourse with all ranks of men, he made all honest men his equals, and treated them as such. He had great ingenuity and wisdom in accomplishing his purposes, and when circumstances required, he could keep "his own council;" but he had a scrupulous regard to the rights of all, with whom he dealt; and had no forbearance for dishonesty or intrigue. By the interest he expressed in the affairs of all, who needed his sympathy or aid, and by his very courteous and kindly treatment of all, with whom he came in contact, in every form of association, he secured not only the respect and confidence, but the personal friendship of all. No man had fewer, if he had any, enemies, or more attached personal friends.

Mr. Seymour was a patron of all our literary institutions, and for many years was a member of the corporations of Middlebury College, and Addison County Grammar School. He was elected a member of the former in 1810. He united with the Episcopal Society at its first organization, was for many years senior warden of the parish, and had been a communicant in the church also for many years.

In the spring of 1800, Mr. Seymour was married to Miss Lucy Case, a daughter of Jonah Case of Addison, and sister of Loyal Case, Esq., an Attorney of Middlebury. She died in October 1838. Since her death he has remained unmarried.

For some time previous to his death, Mr. Seymour had been slowly and rather prematurely declining with the infirmities of advancing age, and died at his residence, at six o'clock Saturday

evening, November 21, 1857, in the eighteenth year of his age. He left to mourn his decease, three sons, Ozias Seymour Esq., an Attorney of this village, Moses Seymour, Esq., of Geneva, Wisconsin, and Horatio Seymour, Esq., an attorney of Buffalo, N. Y., and their children and the children of a deceased daughter, Mrs. Emma H. Battell, who had constituted a part of his family. His sister Mrs. Clarissa Marsh, widow of the late Rev. Truman Marsh, the oldest member of his father's family, survived at his death at the age of eighty-five years, in Litchfield Conn. The late Moses Seymour and Ozias Seymour of Litchfield, Henry Seymour of Utica, N. Y. and Epaphro Seymour of Brattleboro Vt., were brothers of Mr. Seymour.

Samuel Mattocks, Jun., in 1794, erected on the Dudley lot a large house, with necessary out houses, and opened a tavern, which he continued until 1804. Samuel Mattocks senior, on the same lot and north of the tavern, erected a two story house called the "green house," in which he resided until his death in 1804, in the sixty-fifth year of his age. He also built on the Willard lot next north, and in front of the house built by Dr. Willard, a double store, the upper story being made into a large hall, used by the masonic lodge.

In 1804 Nathan Rosseter from Williamstown, Mass., purchased the Mattocks' tavern house and continued the tavern. Mattocks then removed his family to the "green house," and commenced and continued for several years the mercantile business in the building built by his father on the Willard lot. The tavern was owned and kept successively by Nathan Rosseter, Loudon Case and Artemas Nixon until 1812, when the latter leased it to Harvey Bell, who continued it until his death in 1814, at the age of fifty-nine years.

In 1816, the tavern house, green house, store, Willard house and all the out houses connected with them were consumed by fire. After this fire a tavern was opened in the brick house built by Ep. Miller, and was kept by Samuel Mattocks, until the brick building was erected on the old tavern stand by Nathan Wood in 1826. This was opened as a public house in the spring of 1827, and was known as the Vermont Hotel. Different tenants occupied this until 1852. At the previous session, the legislature incorporated the "Middle-

bury Hotel Company:" who proceeded to make extensive repairs and alterations. It is now known as the "Addison House." It has been kept successively by George R. Orcutt and Edward Muzzey, and it is now under the superintendence of Richard Adams, and George Adams, under the firm of Adams Brothers.

Samuel Mattocks, who built the first hotel on this ground, besides the business mentioned, was sheriff of the county in 1813 and 1814, and was an efficient and useful citizen. He died in 1823 at the age of fifty-eight.

In 1817, after the destruction of the hotel and other buildings on these grounds, Thomas Hagar who had retreated from Canada at the commencement of the war, purchased the Willard lot and erected the brick building, now owned by the bank, which he designed and for some time used, as a store. In 1825, the whole of these grounds became the property of Rufus and Jonathan Wainwright. The tavern lot they sold to Nathan Wood, and on the Willard lot they erected the large brick house, now the residence of Joseph Warner, Esq. It was designed for the residence of Jonathan Wainwright, and by him occupied with his family until his death.

In the year 1790, William Young, a cabinet maker, came to the village and purchased of Judge Painter the lot next north of the lot purchased by Dr. Matthews. He erected for his dwelling the small house standing between the houses of Mrs. Simmons and Mrs. Merrill. He also built a shop, in which he prosecuted his trade until 1795. About this time Col. Nathaniel Ripley, from Windham, Conn., a carpenter, moved into the village, and in 1794 purchased the lot next north of Young's, which Young the next year purchased and added to his own.

In 1792, Festus Hill a carpenter purchased of Judge Painter the corner lot now owned by Hon. Peter Starr. On this lot he built the one story house, occupied successively by Dr. Hastings and Mr. Starr, until the latter removed it to the lot east of it and built his present house.

Dr. Joseph Clark settled in the village, as a physician, in 1793, and purchased of Judge Painter the lot on the corner formed by the New Haven road and Seminary street. Here he built a small

house, in which he resided until 1796. He then removed to the house he built on the lot purchased of Samuel Foot. In 1801, he left the State and his family together.

Ruluff Lawrence, from Canaan, Conn., in 1796, purchased the lot, where Dr. Clark first settled, and established the blacksmith business. He was joined in a few months by his brother, Benjamin Lawrence, and they continued their business with great success until the year 1804, when they closed it and divided their property. In their division, Ruluff took the lot above mentioned and built on it the present two story house. He afterwards purchased of Daniel Chipman the land on the north side of Seminary street, then a part of the farm formerly owned by Freeman Foot, on which stands the house occupied by Judge Tilden and that next east of it for many years owned by Miss Jerusha Frisbie, and now by James M. Slade Esq. The latter he built and occupied for a time, and afterwards built the other, in which he also resided for several years. He afterwards removed to the house now owned by Dr. Sidney Moody, the front part of which he also built. Benjamin Lawrence, in the division, took the lot, on Weybridge street, purchased of Anthony Rhodes, and successively built and occupied the houses, which are the residences of Amon Wilcox and Dr. Z. Bass. They afterwards resumed the business of blacksmithing separately, and both are now living at a very advanced age.*

Noble Stewart and Ira Stewart, who had been in the mercantile business in New Haven, having purchased of Ruluff Lawrence the house on the corner lot, and the store built by D. and W. Campbell, removed their business to this village, and prosecuted it in that store.

Their father, mother and sister, resided with them, constituting one family. For the purpose of bringing their business nearer the the travelled way, they erected the brick store in front of the former one. In the midst of a prosperous and active business, Noble Stewart, one of the partners, was seized with a violent fever, which terminated his life in 1814, at the age of thirty-seven.

Ira Stewart, the surviving brother, continued the business as before for many years. John Stewart, the father, who had been a sol-

*Benjamin Lawrence has since, April 4, 1859, died, at the age of 85 years.

dier in the French and Revolutionary wars, died in 1829, in his eighty-fourth year, and Mrs. Huldah Stewart, the mother, in 1847, at the age of 95 years. Hon. Ira Stewart, the surviving brother, died in February 1855, at the age of seventy-five years, leaving his aged sister, and his two sons, Dugald Stewart, County Clerk, and John W. Stewart, in the practice of law, the inheritors of his name and estate. Miss Cynthia Stewart has since died, in March, 1857, at the age of eighty-four. To Ira Stewart were committed various responsible trusts in town, and twice he was elected to represent the county of the State Senate.

In 1819, he was elected a member of the corporation of Middlebury College, and continued in that position until his death; and he was appointed by that body to superintend the erection of the stone chapel of that institution, which service he executed with his usual sound judgment. He was ever an active and devoted patron, friend and supporter of the college and other educational institutions in the village. As a man of conservative disposition and sound practical judgment, he was always consulted, and aided in all plans for the advancement of any public interests. He had been, for many years an active and efficient member of the Congregational Church and Society, and an exemplary Christian; and in his last sickness and death exhibited strikingly the consolations and triumphs of religion.

John Simmons Esq. purchased the two lots, next north of the Matthews lot, originally purchased and occupied by William Young, and erected the two story dwelling house, and resided in it until his death, and it is still occupied by his widow and family. Mr. Simmons was from Ashford Conn., was educated at the college in Providence, Rhode Island, and licensed to practice law at the March term of the county court for this county in 1801; and at the same time established himself in his profession in this village. He was very successful in his practice, and very respectable and useful as a citizen. He was unassuming and rather diffident, and did not appear much as an advocate before the courts, but had an extensive practice as attorney, counsellor and conveyancer. Mr. Simmons compiled the first book of legal forms, ever published in the State,—“The Law Magazine”—which was published by Huntington and Fitch

in this place in 1804. No man possessed more fully the confidence of the community as an honest, judicious and correct business man. He was many years appointed select man, and to many other important trusts in town. He held the office of treasurer of Middlebury College from 1810 to the time of his death, and was ever forward as a patron and supporter of the College and the other educational institutions. He was also a regular supporter of religious institutions in the Congregational Society, and in 1816 he became a member of the church, and adorned his profession by an exemplary life. He died in 1829 at the age of fifty-three years.

In May 1791, while the courts were sitting in Addison, and little progress had been made in making a village in this place, Judge Painter, in anticipation of his purpose of making this the county seat, deeded to the county a small tract of land, and in 1794 another piece. We refer to the account of Addison County, for a more particular statement of the proceedings relating to the county property and buildings. In the disposition of his lands, on the east side of the creek, he accommodated all the building lots, so as to reserve for the public what now constitutes the common, and was known by that name, although not deeded by him until 1799.

At the time Judge Painter deeded to Benjamin Gorton in 1789, the small piece adjoining the bridge, he also deeded to him another piece twelve rods square, about five rods above the bridge, on the bank of the creek, designed for a potash. The title of this lot, with another small piece passed in 1798 to Samuel Clark Jun., Joseph Plumb and Jonathan Lawrence, under the firm of Clark, Lawrence & Co., who added another small piece. On this lot they erected the old building, which stood where James M. Slade & Co.'s store stands. In this they opened a store, and with it connected the manufacture of potash, and continued their business until 1802, when, being unsuccessful, they closed the concern. This building remained until after the railroad was completed, used by different persons and for different purposes. It was then removed and a building erected by E. D. Barber and Lyman P. White, into which Slade & Co. removed their mercantile business. The upper story was occupied by Barber & Bushnell and Linsley & Beckwith, as lawyers' offices.

On the 22d of February 1852, this building was burnt with nearly all its contents, including the libraries and offices, the whole of the records and papers belonging to the Congregational Society, and the whole of the records and files of the probate court from the commencement. Soon after, Slade & Co. rebuilt the store, which is now occupied by them, having in the upper story a large hall, for lectures, concerts and other exhibitions.

In 1795, William Young removed to the lot now owned by Alanson Dustin, having previously purchased it of Freeman Foot. On this he built the present dwelling house, and continued his business as a cabinet maker. In the meantime, he received into partnership his son-in-law, Gen. Hastings Warren, who had served his apprenticeship under him. In 1805 the partnership was dissolved, and Gen. Warren purchased the house, and continued the business; and Mr. Young removed to a farm in Leicester. He was among the most respectable citizens, a prominent member of the Methodist Society, and one of its founders. Gen. Warren had purchased of Daniel Chipman a lot of land on the corner, now occupied by the Methodist chapel. On this lot he erected his shop, which was burnt, and soon after its successor was subjected to a similar destruction, with much of their contents. Afterwards he erected for a shop the brick building now occupied by James M. Slade, Esq., as a dwelling house. He also purchased afterwards of Mr. Chipman the lot next north of the above, and erected a dwelling house on the ground, where the cellar remains. This house was also burnt in the winter of 1833-4. Gen. Warren had been successful in his business and had accumulated a handsome estate. In the meantime he directed his attention to his farm and an extensive traffic between the north and the State of Georgia, in which he met with occasional losses. These, with his accumulated losses by fire, embarrassed him in the latter years of his life. Having lost his wife and his family having scattered, he spent the decline of his life with his son-in-law, William Y. Ripley, in Rutland, and died there.

Hon. Daniel Chipman removed to Middlebury in 1794, and settled in the practice of law. He selected for his future residence a site on the southern point of the hill which bears his name, now

owned and occupied by S. B. Rockwell Esq. It is generally esteemed the most elegant location in the village. Here he purchased of Freeman Foot five acres, which before constituted a part of Foot's farm. He was then unmarried. After his marriage, he purchased the lot next north of William Young's lot, which Freeman Foot had before sold, and on which he had built a small house. The house Mr. Chipman fitted up for a residence, and it has since been owned and occupied successively by Mrs. Latimer, Calvin C. Waller and Edward D. Barber, and is now owned by Miss Lucy Merritt. In 1802 and 1803 he erected on the lot first selected for his residence his large house, in our estimation the most elegant building ever erected in Middlebury. It was designed and partly built by Samuel D. Coe, an architect of fine taste, who died before its completion. While Mr. Chipman was attending the Legislature in the fall of 1818, this elegant mansion was wholly consumed by fire. He then removed his family into the three story building on the opposite side of the road, which he had previously erected for a law school.

Hon. Daniel Chipman, LL. D., was born in Salisbury, Conn., October 22, 1765. He was one of six sons of Samuel Chipman, then residing in that place. In 1775, the father removed with his sons to Timmouthe in Rutland County. Daniel there labored on his farm until November 1783, when he commenced his preparatory studies with his brother Nathaniel, who was then in the practice of law in Timmouthe. He entered Dartmouth College at the commencement in 1784. Notwithstanding the short time he spent in his preparatory studies, by his confirmed habit of industry and his energy, he graduated in 1788, with a standing among the first in his class. He immediately commenced the study of law in the office of his brother Nathaniel, and in September 1790 was admitted to the bar, and opened an office in Rutland. He soon had an extensive practice, regularly attending all the courts in the counties of Rutland, Bennington, Addison and Chittenden. In 1793, three years after he was licensed to practice law, he was chosen a delegate from Rutland to the convention held at Windsor, for amending the constitution. In the year 1794 he removed to Middlebury, still continuing his practice in the counties above named. In 1796, he was



RESIDENCE OF S. B. ROCKWELL, ESQ.



David Chipman

married to Eleutheria Hedge, daughter of Rev. Lemuel Hedge, a minister of Warwick, Mass., and sister of the late Levi Hedge, professor in Harvard College, then residing with her mother in Windsor. In 1798 and two succeeding years, he represented Middlebury in the General Assembly, and in several other years previous to 1808. He was chosen that year a member of the council, under the old constitution, and was annually elected to that body for several years. He represented the town also in 1812, 1813 and 1814.

In 1813 he was elected speaker, and was distinguished for his promptness and decision. It was a time of high party excitement, the two political parties, Federal and Democratic, being nearly equal. The constitution provides, that "at the opening of the General Assembly, there shall be a committee appointed out of the Council and Assembly, who, after being duly sworn to the faithful performance of their trusts, shall proceed to sort and count the votes for governor and *declare* the person who has a major part of the votes to be governor for the year ensuing, and if there be no choice made, then the Council and General Assembly, by their joint ballots, shall make choice of a governor." Such committee had been appointed at this session, and some time in the evening, having completed the canvass, the Governor and Council came into the chamber of the House of Representative to hear the report of the canvassing committee, and agreeably to the uniform usage, on such occasions, the speaker resigned his chair to the governor, who was appointed chairman. The canvassing committee reported that there was no choice of governor by the people, and thereupon the committee of the two houses adjourned to an early hour the next day. On examination of the constitution the next morning, Mr. Chipman was satisfied that the report of the canvassing committee was conclusive; that the two houses had no power to canvass the votes, or to act on the subject, otherwise than by a concurrent resolution to meet and elect a governor by their joint ballots. He therefore considered it would be highly improper, and indeed in violation of the constitution, for the House of Representatives to join the governor and council, to decide the question whether a governor had or had not been elected by the people. Having taken this view of the subject, he at once decided

on the course to be pursued: that he would not resign the speaker's chair to the governor, when he and the Council shall enter the House, but retain it and continue to preside, and preserve order in the House, leaving the governor to preside in the Council. Accordingly, when the Governor and Council came in, he retained the speaker's chair, seating the Governor at his right. This was so unexpected, that there was profound silence for several minutes. At length a member of the House arose and addressed the chairman. The speaker called him to order, saying if he had a motion to make, he must address the speaker. Several other members made the same attempt, but were immediately put down by the speaker. A member of the council then addressed the chairman: upon which the governor, turning to the speaker, observed, "there seems to be great confusion." "There is indeed," said the speaker, "but your excellency may rest assured that the most perfect order will be preserved in the House, over which I have the honor to preside." At length the Governor and Council, finding that the House of Representatives would not act with them, retired, and the two houses afterwards met by concurrent resolution, and elected a governor by their joint ballots.

This incident in the life of Mr. Chipman, which produced some excitement at the time, we have copied from an account given by himself, not only because it is an illustration of his character, but because it is an event connected with the political history of the State.

In the year 1814, Mr. Chipman was again elected Speaker of the House, and the same year was elected a representative to Congress. He attended the first session, but, by reason of ill health, was unable to attend to his duties a great portion of the time, and, during the next session, was confined at home by sickness. The year following his health was so far restored, that he again resumed the practice of law, and in the years 1818 and 1821 represented the town in the legislature.

In the year 1822, he published an essay on contracts for specific articles. It was highly commended by Judge Story, Chancellor Kent and other eminent jurists, met with an extensive sale, and

added much to his reputation as a lawyer and scholar. In the preface to this work, he urged the importance of having the decisions of the Supreme Court reported. At the next session of the legislature, in the year 1823, an act was passed providing for the appointment of a reporter, and he was appointed to that office. Having published one volume of reports, ill health compelled him to resign it.

In the preface to this volume, he urged the importance of dividing the legislature into two branches, by constituting a Senate. The Council of Censors having recommended this among other amendments, a convention was called for the purpose of considering it. In the meantime Mr. Chipman had retired from public life, and invested considerable property, and built him a large house in a pleasant location in Ripton, and had fixed his residence in the refreshing and salubrious atmosphere of that place. Such was his anxiety to have this amendment adopted, that he yielded to the solicitations of his neighbors and accepted the appointment of delegate to the convention, held in January 1836, from that town. Mr. Chipman took a conspicuous part in the able and animated debate on that subject, and the amendment was adopted by a small majority.

In 1846, Mr. Chipman published the life of his brother, "Hon. Nathaniel Chipman LL. D., formerly member of the United States Senate, and Chief Justice of the State of Vermont." He afterwards published several smaller works, "Memoirs of Col. Seth Warner" and "of Thomas Chittenden, first Governor of Vermont, with a history of the constitution during his administration," which are valuable publications.

In 1850, Mr. Chipman was elected delegate to the constitutional convention of that year, and there made his last appearance in any public capacity. The journey to Montpelier proved too much for his advanced age and feeble health. While in attendance upon the convention he was attacked with sickness, from which he never recovered. He reached his home in Ripton in a feeble condition, and died on the 23d of April 1850, in the eighty-fifth year of his age.

The preceding history furnishes probably sufficient information of the character and standing of Mr. Chipman. We doubt whether

there is, or ever has been, another man so familiarly acquainted with the early history and interests of the State. From childhood, he was in the company and under the influence of his brother, Judge Chipman, with a discernment capable of comprehending and appreciating every measure adopted. His perception of truth was quick and discriminating. He was a plain man in his dress and address, but courteous in his manners. His addresses at the bar and in public assemblies, as well as in private conversation, were in eloquent from the power of his argument and the weight of his the opinions, rather than from any polished oratory. Mr. Chipman every position, was devoted to the interests of the town, and among the projectors and founders of our educational establishments. He was especially a liberal contributor and supporter of the college, and a member of its corporation from its beginning. In 1849 the corporation of Middlebury College conferred on him the honorary degree of LL. D.

Mr. Chipman was by conviction an Episcopalian. But before an Episcopal Society was established here, he contributed liberally to the support of the Congregational Society, and for the erection of their church.

The reader will, we trust, excuse the introduction here, as illustrating the character of Mr. Chipman, of a merely personal matter. When about his twenty-first birth-day, the writer closed, as penniless as he commenced, two years of severe labor as tutor in college, which he wished to have counted as two years in the study of law, Mr. and Mrs. Chipman received him into their family, treated him as one of its members, and furnished a convenient room for the prosecution of his studies. On being admitted to the bar in 1804, Mr. Chipman received him into partnership, on equal terms in all the courts to which he was admitted. In this position he spent the only six years of his professional life.

Several lots, on the north side of Seminary Street, from Freeman Foot's farm, and sold by him before he sold it to Mr. Chipman, were settled at an early day. An acre lot next west of Mr. Chipman's house lot was purchased by Nathaniel Bishop from Attleborough Mass., on which James Sawyer had previously resided in a

small house. The lot was afterwards divided into two lots, which have been successively owned by different persons. On the front of the east half stands the brick district school house. The west half, with that part of the east which lies back of the school house, is owned by Harry Langworthy, a merchant doing business in Nichols' building, at the south end of the bridge. In 1798, Bela Sawyer, for many years a carpenter in the village, purchased the lot now owned by Myron Langworthy, of the firm of J. M. Slade & Co. Sawyer built and resided in a one story house, to which Langworthy has added a second story. The lot between this and the Bishop lot was purchased by Col. Nathaniel Ripley from Windham, Conn. The lot is now owned by Richard Cottrell, of Plattsburgh. Ripley built the present house, and resided in it many years. He afterwards resided for a few years on a farm in Weybridge, and afterwards in a house on the farm of his son, William Y. Ripley, in the south part of the town, and died there in 1842 at the age of eighty years. In 1798, James Sawyer, a joiner and carpenter, and father of Bela Sawyer, purchased an acre lot next west of Bela Sawyer's. On the west half, he built a small house and resided in it for several years. The east half was sold by him to Abijah Hurd, who built a house on it, which was occupied for some years by his brother Hinman Hurd. The lot was for many years owned by Mr. Samuel B. Bent, who built the present house and other buildings.* Mr. Bent was from Rutland, Worcester County, Mass., and a manufacturer of cards. This business he prosecuted here until his death, adding from time to time new machinery with late improvements. He died suddenly of enlargement of the heart, December 4, 1857, much respected as an honest, upright citizen and exemplary christian, aged 73 years. The other half of this lot was for some years owned by Timothy C. Strong, a printer, who built the present house and resided in it. It has since been owned by Dr. Merrill in his lifetime, and occupied, as a residence for his family, by Mr. Z. Buckwith, who has long been known among us as a merchant. It is now owned by Dr. Hiram Mecker.

*Mr. Harry Langworthy has recently purchased this house and fitted it up for his own residence.

After Mr. Chipman became the owner of the Foot farm, the lots now occupied by Dea. Elmer, Mr. Ansel D. Stearns the painter, and Mr. Garner, on the New Haven road, were early purchased and have been since occupied by different families. Until the year 1814, the land between Dea. Elmer's and the Methodist Chapel lot, was a smooth meadow, where we have seen a general training. In that year, Mr. Chipman opened a road through the vacant lot and offered building lots for sale. The writer of this history purchased the north half, and that year and the following he erected his present dwelling house. And here, in 1817, he commenced the interesting business of housekeeping, with his own family, and here he hopes to end it, when death shall remove him from his earthly relations.

CHAPTER XI.

O. BREWSTER—ASA FRANCIS—J. FULLER—H. BELL—L. CASE—
P. DAVIS—J. HENSHAW—L. HOOKER—W. SLADE—E. HAWLEY
—CAPT. YOUNG—D. DICKERSON—D. PAGE—G. PAINTER.

We proceed now to further settlements under purchases from Judge Painter. In 1795, Oliver Brewster, a tailor, purchased the lot next north of Festus Hill's, on which he built the present house and resided in it until he left the state. Capt. Jonathan M. Young became the owner of the lot in 1805, and resided on it many years. When he came to this place in 1804, he engaged in the mercantile business with Adonijah Schuyler, under the firm of Young and Schuyler. He was afterwards owner of the Appleton Foot grist mill, deputy sheriff of the county and constable of the town. At the commencement of the war of 1812, he received a commission of lieutenant in the regular service. He died in March, 1854, at the age of eighty-two.

In 1825, Asa Francis, Esq., formerly from Hartford, Conn., purchased this lot, and occupied it for the residence of his family, until within a few years he removed to the house next north of Dr. Labaree's, where he still resides. He had been extensively and successfully engaged in mercantile business. He some years since retired from it, and established his son, Parkhurst Francis, in the same business, first in Middlebury and since in Illinois. The lot which he left is now owned by James Negus, in business as a merchant tailor.

In 1795, Capt. Josiah Fuller purchased the lot, now occupied by the family of William Morton,* on the west side of Pleasant street, and running to the creek, on which he built a small house, and es-

*Mr Morton died April 30, 1856, aged 65 years.

established his tannery on the bank of the creek. Fuller the next year purchased the lot on the opposite side of the street, next north of Oliver Brewster's. On this lot, in 1801, he built the present house. It is now—greatly remodeled and repaired—the residence of Rev. Benjamin Labaree, D. D., president of the college. It was also the residence of Rev. Joshua Bates, D. D., while in that office.

Philip Davis from Rockingham, also a tanner, in 1806 purchased both these lots, established a tannery and built the present house on the creek lot, and resided in it several years.

Thomas Archibald, in 1796, bought the lot next south of Fuller's creek lot, and built the present house. It was the first residence of the family of Hon. Peter Starr, and is now the residence of Mr. David Piper, a carpenter and joiner.

The lot in possession of Mrs. Bell, widow of the late Harvey Bell, Esq., was first purchased by President Atwater, and by him sold in 1808 to Dr. Edward Tudor. There was then a small shanty on the lot. But the house now standing on it was built by Dr. Tudor, and occupied by him with his family for many years. He afterwards removed to the house, where he resided until the time of his death, next north of the Catholic church. The house left by Dr. Tudor was purchased by Mr. Bell in 1818, and was the residence of his family until his death in 1848, at the age of fifty-seven years, and is still the residence of his family.

Harvey Bell, Esq. was the son of Harvey Bell, mentioned elsewhere. He was graduated at Middlebury College in 1809, studied law, in part with John Simmons, Esq., his brother-in-law, and partly at the law school in Litchfield Conn., and was licensed in 1812. He commenced practice in partnership with Mr. Simmons, but continued it afterwards separately as an attorney and advocate. In the later years of his life he was the editor and publisher of the Vermont Galaxy. He was one of the first members elected to the state senate in 1836, after the establishment of that branch of the legislature, by the amendment of the constitution of that year. He was also a member in 1837, and was among the prominent members of that body. He was Secretary of the Corporation of Middlebury

College from 1826 to 1843, and was always prompt in aiding and supporting that and our other educational institutions. He was also a liberal supporter of religious institutions, and was a member of the Congregational Church from 1835.

Joshua Henshaw first settled, as before stated, on the farm now owned by Silas Piper and his son. In the year 1800 he purchased the lot, now constituting the rail road depot grounds, and built the large house standing there. To this he removed his family and resided in it until he removed to Canada. The house has since been the residence successively of Professor Hall, Professor Fowler and Joseph Warner, Esq., and is now occupied by Professor Robbins.

Levi Hooker came to Middlebury about the year 1801, with a large stock of merchandize, and in 1803 purchased the lot, now the residence of Asa Francis, Esq., on Pleasant Street, and for many years previously occupied by Cyrus Birge, Esq., and built there the present house. He also built successively three stores on the ground on which the four stores of Jason Davenport stand. The three upper stores Mr. Davenport built since the construction of the rail road, which altered the position of the ground, and raised the travelled way above the foundation of the former buildings. Mr. Hooker was largely engaged in the mercantile business for a few years, and afterwards occupied himself with various other pursuits, and removed many years ago to the State of New York. Mr. Birge, mentioned above, was also for several years in the successful prosecution of the mercantile business. He resides now in the city of Washington.

Loyal Case, Esq., in 1803, purchased the lot next south of Painter's house lot, now belonging to the estate of Austin Johnson, and occupied by Rev. James T. Hyde. He built the present dwelling house, and resided in it until his death. Mr. Case had been admitted to the practice of law in September, 1797. He had studied law with Hon. Daniel Chipman, and after his license, entered into partnership with that gentleman. In 1804 the partnership was dissolved, and he continued the practice separately. From that time until his death, he was annually appointed State's Attorney for the county. He was a man of ardent temperament, and of a kind, benevolent disposition, easily kindled at every appearance of injustice

or oppression, and at this day would have been a prominent reformer. He became a very ardent and popular advocate, and was increasing in popularity. Hon. Horatio Seymour related to us the following characteristic anecdote. A fugitive slave was overtaken and arrested at Shoreham, and a time appointed for the trial. Mr. Seymour was employed as counsel for the owner, and Mr. Case for the fugitive. They started together on horseback for the place of trial. Case remonstrated with his companion, who was also his brother-in-law, against his engaging in so unrighteous a business as defending slavery. Mr. Seymour justified himself with the argument, that it was his duty to vindicate the legal rights of all persons, and see that the laws were duly executed. This did not satisfy Mr. Case, who continued his remonstrance, advised him to return, and assured him that if he went on such an errand, some judgment would come upon him from Heaven. While passing through Cornwall, Mr. Seymour was seized with a violent cholic, which was so painful as to arrest his progress, and force him to stop and return without attending the court.

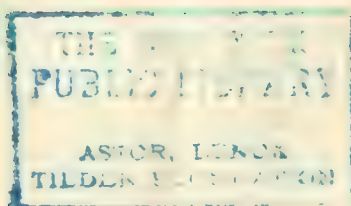
The career of Mr. Case was suddenly arrested, on the 13th of October, 1808, by his death at the age of thirty two.

Cyrus Brewster, at an early day settled on the lot, between Mrs. Simmons' house lot, and the Stewart lot, and in 1803 it was purchased by Joseph Dorrance, a hatter, who built the present dwelling house. The lot was owned by, and was the residence of, the late Hon. William Slade, and is now occupied by his widow.

Hon. William Slade, whom we have thus incidentally mentioned, has passed from among the living, since this work was written; but we deem it improper to send it to the press without some further notice of him, as among our distinguished citizens. He was the son of William Slade, Esq., of Cornwall, who was sheriff of the county for ten successive years, from 1801 to 1810; and was born at Cornwall, May 9, 1786. He was graduated at Middlebury College in 1807, having maintained a prominent standing in his class, and immediately entered upon the study of law in the office of Judge Doolittle. He was admitted to practice at the August term of the County Court in 1810, and immediately opened an office in this vil-



William Steele



lage. He continued to practice with increasing reputation, especially as an advocate, until 1814.

As a politician Mr. Slade was of the school of Jefferson and Madison. In consequence of the measures, adopted by these administrations, in resistance of the encroachments of the British and French nations, who were engaged in an exterminating war, and followed by our own war in 1812, party politics raged to an extent never since known. A majority of the people of this state had given in their adhesion to the Democratic party, at the commencement of Mr. Jefferson's administration. But the parties were so nearly equal, that the Federalists obtained the ascendancy for two years, during the war. The struggle between the parties was arduous and exciting. Mr. Slade entered with his whole soul into the conflict, and became an active and influential partisan. He addressed with zeal and effect all political assemblages, and wrote much, in enforcing and vindicating his political views. On account of his popularity as a writer and public speaker, he became an acknowledged leader. The Democratic party, in the fall of 1813, had established a paper, called the *Columbian Patriot*; but the editor who had been employed not proving satisfactory, he was dismissed; and Mr. Slade, early in 1814, gave up his profession and became the editor,—a business which was congenial to his talents and temperament. He also established an extensive book store and printing office, and published several books. This business did not prove successful, and was continued only two or three years. But he occupied so prominent a position in his party, that his friends were ready to give him any office which might be vacant. Accordingly he was elected Secretary of State, successively from 1815 to 1822; Assistant Judge of Addison County Court, from 1816 to 1821; Clerk of the Supreme Court for the county from 1819 to 1823. After the failure of his printing and publishing business, the offices, which he held at home in 1823, did not satisfy his pecuniary wants, and he took the office of clerk in the Department of State at Washington in 1824. After the disorganization of the political parties, at the close of the war and during the administration of Mr. Monroe, and when the election of a successor approached, towards the close of his admin-

istration, Mr. Slade attached himself to the party of John Quincy Adams, in opposition to Gen. Jackson, as did most of the people of Vermont. When the latter came into office in 1829, and Mr. Van Buren had charge of the department of State, Mr. Slade was removed, in a manner which was not relished by the freemen of Vermont, as they were prepared to manifest at the first opportunity. He then returned to Middlebury, and resumed the profession of law, and in 1830 was appointed State's Attorney for the county. On the first vacancy in 1831 he was elected a representative in Congress. In this office he continued until 1843. The year following he officiated as reporter of the decisions of the Supreme Court, and in 1844, he was elected Governor of Vermont, and continued in that office two years.

Since that time to the close of his life, Governor Slade has been employed as Corresponding Secretary and General Agent of the Board of National Popular Education. The object of this institution has been to collect in the Eastern States, and send to destitute places at the west, pious and competent female teachers. For this work Gov. Slade was, by his talents and temperament, peculiarly well adapted; and has, we believe, accomplished as much good as in any other of his labors. On him has devolved the whole business of looking up the teachers, and the destitutions where they were needed, as well as of raising the requisite funds. The teachers, before they were sent, were collected together at Hartford, and for several weeks, placed under the examination and instruction of experienced female educators, and were afterwards conducted by the agent to the west and located in their appointed places. Two classes were sent annually while his health was sufficient; but, for one or two years since, only one, and the last year, we believe, none. Four hundred and eighty-one teachers have been sent out under his direction, besides 109 sent out by a Ladies' Society in Boston, which has since become auxillary. To this service Gov. Slade zealously devoted all his time and energy. It required extensive correspondence in its various departments, numerous journies and frequent public addresses.

Gov. Slade was characterized by persevering industry, and by a sensitive and ardent temperament, which were manifest in all his

enterprises. They were exhibited in his political movements, and in all enterprises, which he thought tended to promote the reformation of society. They were exhibited no less in his religious character. When a member of college in 1806, he consecrated himself to the service of religion, and united himself to the congregational church in Cornwall, his native place, and afterwards transferred his connection to the Congregational Church in Middlebury. He nowhere,—in Congress or elsewhere,—concealed his profession as a Christian; and his religious character was prominent on all occasions. And when he became conscious of his approaching exchange of worlds, his religion fully sustained him, and he descended to the grave with entire resignation, and with uninterrupted peace and triumph.

Gov. Slade was accustomed to public speaking, and writing on every subject which interested him: which he continued, to fill up his unoccupied time, as long as his strength permitted. While very feeble, he continued writing for newspapers and otherwise, and delivered several lectures before educational associations. In the latter years of his life, his writing had principal reference to religious and educational subjects. His style of writing and speaking was characterized by simplicity and directness, which enabled his readers or hearers easily to understand and appreciate his arguments. And, in other respects his style was more pure and classical than is common with public speakers and writers. Several of his speeches in Congress were published, and were read with interest by many. He published in 1823, "Vermont State Papers," a collection of unpublished documents illustrating the history of Vermont; in 1825 a compilation of the Statutes of Vermont; in 1844 the 15 volume of the Vermont Reports. He also published several pamphlets, including his annual reports as agent of the Board of Popular Education.

For several years before his death, the health of Gov. Slade was feeble and failing, and for the last month or two, he declined fast. His death occurred on Sunday night, January 16, 1859, in his 73d year.

Gov. Slade was married February 5 1810, to Abigail Foot, daughter of Appleton Foot, and grand daughter of Daniel Foot, who

were among the earliest settlers, and are mentioned elsewhere. She survives to mourn the loss of her husband, with three sons, Hon. James M. Slade, late Lieutenant Governor, Hon. William Slade of Cleveland, Ohio, Senator in the legislature of that State, and Henry M. Slade Esq., of St Paul, Minnesota.

In 1796 Erastus Hawley, a saddler and harness maker, purchased a half acre lot on the corner next north of the brick building owned by the late Rufus Wainwright. He built here a two story dwelling house, which has since been removed to the lot next north of Moore's hotel, and was owned and occupied as a residence by Nahum Parker, Esq., for many years until recently, who owns also the shop on the opposite side of the street, where he prosecuted the business of a cabinet maker. He has recently retired from active personal labor. The house has recently been purchased by Mr. L. Rockwood, who has established himself in the mercantile business.

Mr. Hawley also built a shop south of his house, for the prosecution of his business. In this place Mr. Hawley resided and in company with Capt. Justus Foot, under the firm of Hawley and Foot, prosecuted the saddling business. He afterwards sold the lot to Wightman and Asa Chapman, who removed the dwelling house and converted the shop into a store for merchandize. After the dissolution of their partnership, the business was prosecuted by Asa Chapman separately. The store has within a few years been fitted up for a dwelling house, and has been occupied by Mrs. Smith, but recently Mr. Chapman has taken possession of it for his own residence.

Mr. Hawley afterwards built the house on the lot next east of his former lot. This lot was many years occupied by Hon. Joel Doolittle, as a residence; and since his death was purchased and fitted up by Mrs. Wainwright, widow of Jonathan Wainwright, and is now owned by Jacob W. Conroe Esq., and occupied for the residence of his family.

Hon. Joel Doolittle, whose name is mentioned above, was graduated at Yale College in 1799, and came to Middlebury in the fall of 1800, as the first tutor of Middlebury College. He was admitted to the bar in 1801. He continued in the practice extensively,



Joel Doolittle

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as counsellor and advocate, until 1817, when he was elected a judge of the Supreme Court, to which office he was elected successively for the four following years, and again in 1824. He was also a member of the old Council for three years commencing in 1815, and a representative of the town in 1824. In 1834 he was chosen a member of the Council of Censors, of which body he was chosen and officiated as President.

In 1819, he was elected a member of the corporation of Middlebury College, and continued in that station until his death. He was always a friend and patron of that and our other educational institutions. He became a communicant in St. Peter's Church, at its first organization, and continued an exemplary and devoted member, exhibiting the influence of Christian principle through life. He was studious as a lawyer, and was faithful in his preparation, and in the discharge of his duties to his clients, as well as in the discharge of the higher trusts committed to him by the public. After he left the bench of the Supreme Court, he continued the practice of law, more or less, as his health permitted. He died in March, 1841, at the age of sixty-eight. Mrs. Doolittle has since resided in Painesville, Ohio, where she has the society of several of her children, and among them John T. Doolittle, Esq., an attorney at law, and Mark R. Doolittle, Esq., editor of the Painesville Commercial Advertiser.

After Mr. Hawley removed from town, the saddling business was carried on by Capt. Foot. In the meantime, in 1811, Foot had purchased the old jail house and removed it to the lot east of the hotel, and fitted it up for the residence of his family, and resided in it until the time of his death in 1835, at the age of forty-nine. It is now owned by Calvin Hill, a successor of Capt. Foot in the saddling business, who has recently been forced by ill health to retire from it. Mr. Hill also built on the same lot the house until lately in the possession of Mr. Z. Beckwith as a residence, and now occupied by Mr. W. H. Remson.

Capt. Foot, in order to provide himself with a shop for his business, united with Hon. Daniel Chipman, who wanted an office, and the Masonic lodge, who wanted a room for their meetings, and they

erected the brick building next south of the Hawley lot. This building was afterwards owned by the late Rufus Wainwright, and since by his son-in-law, Julius A. Beckwith, who had rooms in it for his office, which, since his death, are occupied by his brother-in-law, Rufus Wainwright, Esq., as his office, as an attorney. The County Clerk also has his office in it, and the lower rooms are occupied by a saddler, and by Mr. Rockwood for his store.

In 1804, David Dickinson erected, on a small piece of ground on the upper side and north end of the bridge, the present building nearest the creek. He afterwards erected the building adjoining it on the north. In the former building and other places, Dickinson was engaged for many years, in the mercantile business. Both these buildings have been rented to different persons for stores and shops. Dr. Sidney Moody has for many years, occupied his present location for his drug and grocery store. In the principal room of the building, Mr. Zechariah Beckwith, many years ago opened an auction and commission store, and his business, as dealer in general merchandise, was there extended and prosecuted longer than that of any other occupant. Since the erection of Davenport's block, he occupies a room in that building with a still greater enlargement of his business. In the other building, one room was occupied from the time of its erection, by Mr. Joseph Dyar for his jeweler's shop, until his death. He resided in the house, on Seminary Street, built by William Baker, now owned by Mr. Solomon Parker. While he was going from his shop to his house, a pair of horses harnessed to a sled, standing at a neighboring store, were started by the whistle of a rail-road engine, ran furiously over him and so fatally injured him, that he expired a day or two after, on the 22d of February 1851, at the age of fifty-six years. Mr. Alonzo Dustin occupied a room in the same building from the same period, as a barbor's shop, and within a few years has given up that business, and been succeeded by others in the same room.

While Capt. Young owned the first of these building, he erected the building in the rear of it, and extending further over the creek. The rooms below the level of the bridge have been generally used for confectionary, provision and refreshment shops, and the whole

are now occupied by Mr. Shaw, for that use. The rooms above it were, for many years, occupied by Dea. Harvey Wilcox, for the manufacture of boots and shoes. He has also removed to Davenport's new building, and has extensively enlarged his business.

About the year 1801, Samuel D. Coe, the architect mentioned elsewhere, purchased the lot on the corner east of the old stone jail. It was some years after sold by his heirs, and in 1815, was purchased by Dr. Elisha Brewster. There was a small house on the lot, to which Dr. Brewster added a two story front, which was his family residence while he lived, and is now the residence of his widow. He came to Middlebury from Hartford, Conn., a young man, just from his apprenticeship, and entered into partnership with Dr. William G. Hooker in the druggist business, in the large centre store built by Levi Hooker, on the ground occupied by Davenport's block. Dr. Hooker had commenced business in that store as early as 1804. After he removed to his farm he surrendered it to Dr. Brewster, who continued it for some years in the same place. Not many years before his death, Dr. Brewster erected on the north side of the common, the brick building, with the wooden addition at the east end, lately occupied for the post-office, now known as Brewster's block. To this building he removed his business. He died in July 1838, at the age of forty-seven. Dr. Brewster was a prominent citizen, and an active and useful member and deacon of the congregational church, and a liberal patron, by his labor and contributions, of all religious and other useful institutions. From 1834 to 1836 inclusive, he represented the town in the legislature.

Daniel L. Potter removed his family from Litchfield, Conn., to this village in 1811, and in 1817 purchased the lot on the south side on the street leading eastwardly from the court house, which Benjamin James, a Cooper, in 1813 had purchased of Judge Painter, and on which he had built a small house. Mr. Potter erected the present upright front, and has since occupied it as a residence for his family. He first engaged in the tailoring business, which he prosecuted for several years with success; but finding it injurious to his health, he has since directed his attention to farming. He had been a member of Dr. Beecher's Church in Litchfield, and im-

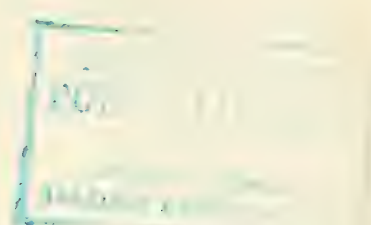
mediately united with the Congregational Church here: of which he was an exemplary and active member. But he was most distinguished as a free mason. He had risen to the highest grade in that institution; had been employed in delivering lectures to masonic lodges in many parts of the State; and had for several years been Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the Knights Templars of the State, and had the rank of Past Grand Commander at the time of his death. He died of a disease of the heart, June 8, 1859, at the age of 69 years. His funeral was on the 11th of June, when he was buried with masonic honors and ceremonies, attended by a very long procession of masons.

The first lot, on the street leading south from the court house, was purchased by David Wells, a blacksmith, who about the year 1808, built the dwelling house and shop, on the lot next south of Capt. Allen's. He continued the prosecution of his trade at this place until his death, which occurred in 1825, at the age of forty-seven. The premises belong to the heirs of Mrs. Wells.

As early as 1810 or 1811, Paul Reed, from New Haven, on the lot on the east side of that street, erected the large house which he opened for a tavern, and which is now used for the same purpose by Harry Moore. Mr. Reed died in 1836, when seventy years of age.

Capt. Ira Allen, from Lebanon, N. H., having just closed his apprenticeship with Col. Howe, of Shoreham, purchased the lot on the west side of the same street, where he still resides, and in 1814 erected his shop, and commenced the prosecution of his trade, as a waggon and carriage maker, and soon after erected his house, in which he has since resided with his family.

In the fall of 1807, David Page, Jun., purchased twelve acres on the corner formed by the road last mentioned, and the street running into it from Pleasant Street, and extending to the creek. He then opened a road running north and south, between this lot and the depot ground, and thence west to the creek. On this lot he first built the house now owned and occupied by Cyrus Morton, long known as a carpenter and joiner in the village. Mr. Page resided in this several years, and built a two story house where Mr. Asa Chapman's present dwelling house stands. This house was burnt,





Cameron & Walsh Lith

32 & 34 John St N.Y.

Gamaliel Bailey

and was rebuilt by Mr. Chapman. Mr. Page also built, on the same lot, the house which was the residence of the late R. L. Fuller.* On this lot also are the other houses on the road leading to the creek; the house on the corner occupied in his lifetime by the late E. W. Lyon, and now by Mr. Humphrey Smith; the residence of the late David S. Church, Esq.,† Sheriff of the County, and others south of it as far as, and including the residence of Mr. Horace Crane, long known as a citizen and leading mechanic in the village.

We here close our account, as far as our design and limits will allow, of all the settlements on land purchased of Judge Painter.

Any person, who has had the patience to run through the tiresome details of this sketch, will perceive, that the life and labors of the Hon. GAMALIEL PAINTER are intimately associated with the history of the town, and will accord to him his common designation of "Father of the town," and especially of the village. He was not a learned man, having had only a common school education.

*Reuben L. Fuller first established himself in the village as a tailor, and afterwards engaged in the mercantile business. In the later years of his life, he reduced his mercantile business, and prosecuted both branches in connection. The Stewart store was his place of business. In all his employments and stations in life, he was a very respectable and useful citizen, and died greatly lamented March 9, 1857, at the age of 43 years. His widow and family still occupy the same house as a residence.

†David S. Church, Esq., was elected sheriff of the County fifteen successive years. On the 17th day of June 1856, he had a warrant against an Irishman, who was charged with some offence, and in the pursuit to arrest him, found he had retreated to the upper room of a house; and in attempting to ascend the stairway to arrest him, he was met by the accused, with a large club, with which he gave Church a blow on the head, with a violence which prostrated him. He was taken by his friends in a very doubtful state and carried home. After a few days he so far recovered, as to attend to his business; but was never entirely well, or able to prosecute his official duties with his former energy. He soon began to decline, and became less able to attend to his business; and after suffering long with various distressing symptoms, he died on the 18th day of January 1859, aged 44 years. On a *post mortem* examination, it was found that the frontal bone, on which the blow fell, was diseased externally across the whole forehead; under the wound the membrane of the brain exhibited evidence of chronic inflammation, and the brain was softened to the centre, of the size of an egg, to the consistence of cream. He was a respectable and much esteemed citizen, and capable officer, and his death is felt and mourned by the whole community; and is an irreparable loss to his widow and three daughters.

He was a plain man, slow of speech and of few words, and not eloquent in public addresses or private conversation. But he had sound judgment and common sense, on which his friends placed implicit and safe reliance. He had great wisdom,—some would say cunning—in forming his plans and in adopting the means to execute them. Thus he became a leader in all important enterprises. He was among the earliest settlers, and from the beginning devoted what powers he had to the prosperity of the town. He personally surveyed and laid out lands and public roads. He was early called to this service in the neighboring towns, and in later years was employed in laying out some of the most important roads in this region. He early enlisted in measures, designed to prepare the way to establish and maintain the independence and organization of Vermont as a State. He was the first delegate who ever represented the town in any public body, and was a member of the convention at Dorset in September, 1776, at which incipient measures were adopted to make a declaration of independence: also a member of the convention held at Windsor, July 2, 1777, which formed the first constitution. He was the first representative of the town after its organization in 1788, in the legislature of the state, and was annually elected the four succeeding, and several subsequent years, until 1819, after which he was several years a member of the old council. In 1785, at the time of the organization of the county, he was elected one of the first judges of the county court. Before the end of the year he resigned this office, for the purpose of being a candidate for the office of sheriff, which for some reason he preferred, and to which he was elected. But in 1787 and the seven succeeding years he was re-elected to the office of judge.

After he removed to the village in the fall of 1787, he adopted his plans with appropriate measures to make it a respectable place of business, and the seat of the courts in the County. He early built mills and sold building lots to all worthy immigrants. As early as 1791, when the village was little else than a wilderness, standing on the lot he had deeded to the County, he said to the bystanders, “this is the place for the court house.” Through his agency, as a member of the legislature, his plans were accomplished and his

prediction fulfilled. In the town he often officiated as moderator of the meetings, and in other offices and trusts. When the Congregational Society finally decided to build a church, he was appointed superintendent, to adopt the plan and make the contracts for its erection, to which also he largely contributed. He was also appointed by the corporation to superintend the erection of the stone college, to which he also contributed liberally. He was a prominent promoter of our other literary institutions. By the charter of the college, he was constituted one of the original trustees, and occupied that place until his death. In his last will, all his children having died, he gave all his estate, except an annuity to his widow, during her life, to that institution : from which the college realized about thirteen thousand dollars.

Judge Painter was born in New Haven, Conn., on the 22d of May 1742. His first wife was Abigail Chipman, sister of Col. John Chipman, who died April 21 1790.* By her he had two sons, Joseph, who died in 1804, at the age of thirty-four, and Samuel, who was drowned in the creek in June 1797, at the age of twenty-five. His second wife was Victoria Ball, of Salisbury, Conn., who died in June 1806, at the age of forty-six. By her he had one daughter, Abby Victoria, who died in December 1818, at the age of twenty-two. His third wife, who survived him, was Mrs. Ursula Bull, of Litchfield, Conn., a widow, and sister of Mrs. Tracy, wife of the distinguished senator from Connecticut. Judge Painter died in May 1819, aged seventy-six years. The corporation of Middlebury College erected a monument at his grave.

*Mrs. Severance, mentioned elsewhere, who was an inmate in the family of Judge Painter, gives the following account of the funeral of his first wife. A raft was made by lashing together two canoes and spreading boards over them ; on this the corpse was placed accompanied by the mourners and friends and men to manage the boats, while a few others walked on the shore. Thus arranged the procession moved up the creek, and the body was deposited in the burying ground near Col. Chipman's. The boats, on their way, leaked, and the men, having no pails or dishes with them, bailed out the water with their shoes. No clergyman was present on that occasion.

CHAPTER XII.

FURTHER SETTLEMENTS WEST OF THE CREEK—STILLMAN FOOT—
APPLETON FOOT—HARVEY BILL—JOHN WARREN—CAPT. MARK-
HAM—S. SARGEANT—J. McDONALD—J. BOOLITTLE—T. HAGAR—
JUDGE PHELPS—J. JEWETT—J. BLIN—C. PORTER.

IN addition to the superintendence of his mills, Stillman Foot erected on his mill yard a small building for a store, and was furnished with goods by Mr. Daniel Henshaw, then of Albany. These he sold as partner of Mr. Henshaw. His ill success in this business has been said to be the occasion of his selling his property here and removing out of the State. In the fall of 1800, he deeded his house and adjoining lands to Mr. Henshaw, and at that time, or afterwards, his saw mill. In December of the following year, he sold to John Warren his grist mill and appurtenances. In the spring of 1801, he went to Canton, N. Y. to examine the country and make provisions for his future residence, and in 1802, removed his family to that place.

Mr. Henshaw moved with his family in the year 1803, and took possession of the house and property purchased of Foot. He became interested in some of the works below Appleton Foot's mills, and erected a building on the west side of the bridge, opposite Nichols' brick building, on land which is now vacant, the different apartments of which were rented for various uses. He erected, on the south side of his lot, a building designed for a store, and for some time used for that purpose, but which has since been transformed into a dwelling house, and is occupied by the widow and family of Rev. Lucius Clark. He built also the brick building north of his house now owned by Miss Thirza Adams. Besides superintending his saw mill and other works at the falls, he was, for

some time, engaged in the manufacture of paper at the Paper Mill Falls. He, and we believe all his family, were prominent and exemplary communicants in the Episcopal Church, and occupied a high social position in the community. He left a widow and an interesting family of children, and among them Rev. John P. K. Henshaw, late Bishop of Rhode Island.

About the year 1794, Jonathan Nichols, Jun., an ingenious mechanic, acquainted with the manufacture of iron and the various forms of working it, purchased of Appleton Foot land and a water power, and erected below Foot's mills, successively, a forge, trip-hammer and gun factory. He was not very successful in the prosecution of these establishments, and they fell into the hands of different persons, and were kept in operation partially for several years, but fell into decay and were finally consumed with the other works in that location. Josiah Nichols, a brother of Jonathan, also an ingenious mechanic, joined him in 1796, and continued to work in iron, in all required forms and at different places, until his death in 1836, at the age of sixty-five years. He left a widow, Mrs. Bathsheba Nichols, who is still living.

On the land purchased by Nichols was a small house, of one story, between the dwelling house of Appleton Foot and his mill house, to which John Atwater, in 1801, added a second story. This afterwards became the property of Capt. Moses Leonard, and was occupied by him as a residence until his death, and is still occupied by his widow. Andrew Rutherford, a son-in-law of Capt. Leonard, afterwards erected the addition on the north end, and resided in it until he left town. Capt. Leonard was largely concerned in the works on the falls, and owned the Appleton Foot mills when they were burnt. Mr. Rutherford, after his marriage, was connected with him in business, and being a woolen manufacturer, built and occupied the woolen factory south of the passage to the creek. Capt. Leonard died in 1853, aged 79 years.

Appleton Foot sold his mills in 1807, and removed with his family to Malone, N. Y., where he died in 1831, at the age of sixty-four years.

Among the earliest settlers on the west side of the falls, was Har-

vey Bell, a fuller and dresser of cloth. He established his business here as early as 1791. He built a small house and shop on a lot which he purchased of Stillman and Appleton Foot, and on which now stand the brick house owned by John Vallette, Vallette's store and the large brick building, erected by the late Jonathan Hagar. He afterwards made an addition to his shop, and, in company with his brother, added to his other business that of a merchant. In February, 1797, he sold his premises to John Warren, of Marlborough, Mass., also a clothier, and removed to New Haven, and there, for two or three years, prosecuted his cloth dressing and merchandize. But the latter was unsuccessful, and terminated in the discontinuance of both. He then returned to Middlebury and purchased the lot, on Weybridge street, formerly owned by the late Adna Smith, for some years sheriff of the county, and now belonging to his widow. This lot had been sold by Nehemiah Lawrence to Jonathan Nichols, Jun., previous to his sale to Rhodes, and before that part of Cornwall was added to Middlebury. On this lot Bell built the present dwelling house, and resided in it for a time. In 1805 he purchased Amasa Stowell's tavern lot and opened and kept a public house, and in 1812 took a lease from Ardenas Nixon of the Mattocks tavern house. While occupying this house, in December, 1814, he died, in the fiftieth year of his age.

John Warren, after his purchase, went into possession and prosecuted his trade with great success and profit, and accumulated a large estate. Encouraged by his great success, in 1801 he purchased of Stillman Foot his grist mill lot, and its appurtenances, including all his land and privileges, which he had not deeded to Daniel Henshaw. Warren also, as early as 1804 or 1805, erected his large brick house on the Bell lot. About the commencement of the war of 1812, Mr. Warren, not content with the income which had made him independent, undertook to establish a cotton factory. For this purpose he made large additions to his grist mill buildings, and built and otherwise procured the requisite machinery. But the business was then in its infancy in this country; the machinery was not adapted to the successful prosecution of it, and required frequent changes to keep up with the improvements made. Although the

goods sold at high prices during the war, they fell after its termination, the factory and mill and accompanying buildings were burnt, and being left with no great abundance, Mr. Warren sold out his premises and returned to Massachusetts.

Capt. Ebenezer Markham had been in mercantile business in Canada, and was detained there a prisoner during the war of the revolution, but after its close returned to the States. In the meantime, through some connection with others, he became involved in large debts. While in Shoreham, the debts were prosecuted, and he was committed to the liberties of the jail in Middlebury in the spring of 1795. The first year he lived here without his family and tended bar for Mr. Mattocks. In the spring of 1796, he established a nail factory in a room at the end of Stillman Foot's saw mill, which was said to be the first nail factory in the State. The same year he moved his family here, and resided with them in the nail factory through that year. The following spring he took a lease of Foot for four years, which was extended from time to time, of a small lot, north of Foot's house and extending to the creek. The lease contemplated that the lot should be fitted and used for a garden, but gave the right to erect buildings, which were to belong to Markham and paid for by Foot at the termination of the lease. Under this lease Capt. Markham, in 1797 built the north half of the house now occupied by Mrs. McLeod his daughter. While doing this he put up some posts on the premises, covered them with boards, and occupied this shanty with his family. In the year 1800, in anticipation of the session of the legislature to be held here the fall following, he erected the south half of the house. In this building he opened a public house, which he continued until his death. He died in February 1813, of the prevailing epidemic, at the age of 64 years. The property has since continued in the family and is owned by his daughter Mrs. McLeod, who has furnished most of the foregoing details. Mrs. Markham, his widow, who was the daughter of Benjamin Kellogg, one of the earliest settlers on the lake shore in Addison, survived him and died in January 1850, at the age of 85 years.

Samuel Sargeant, a goldsmith from Worcester, Mass., purchased

the lot on the Weybridge street, on which Harmon A. Sheldon resides. He also purchased the lot next north of it then owned by Elias Wilder. On the lot first mentioned he built a house of one story, in which he resided several years. This house he removed to the Wilder lot, and built the present two story house. In this he resided until the year 1847, when he died at the age of eighty years. He continued his business until the infirmities of age induced him to retire from it. James McDonald, Esq., who married his daughter, purchased and, for several years, occupied the one story house, which had been removed. William Flagg, a carpenter and joiner, and a respectable citizen, afterwards purchased and resided in it until his death. Mr. Flagg was engaged in finishing a contract for building a church in West Rutland, which was nearly completed, when the scaffolding on which he stood gave way, and he fell to the ground: from which he received a fatal injury and died August 24, 1854, aged 49 years. His family still occupy the house.

Mr. McDonald, on leaving this house, purchased the lot where he now resides. An old house standing on it he removed and built his present brick house. Mr. McDonald had been successfully engaged in the mercantile business, for several years, in the room in Sargeant's building now in possession of Mr. W. H. Remsen. He retired from this business some years ago, satisfied with his previous accumulations, and is now the accomplished town clerk of Middlebury. Mr. McDonald was succeeded in his mercantile business, by Harmon A. Sheldon, who occupied the same room until the completion of Davenport's block. Since which he has occupied a room in that building, with greatly enlarged business. The old house, on the lot where Mr. McDonald now resides, was built as early as 1801, by David Dickinson, and used by him for a store. It was afterwards fitted up for a dwelling house, and was for several years the residence of Hon. Joel Doolittle, previous to his purchase of the house of Erastus Hawley, as elsewhere stated.

Thomas Hagar, before mentioned, in 1813, purchased the lot and small house from which Dr. Willard removed, and erected a large house now standing there. He resided in it several years with his family, and was succeeded by Hon. Samuel S. Phelps, who resi-

died in it until his death. It is still the residence of his family.

Samuel Sheather Phelps,* was born at Litchfield, Conn., May 13, 1793. His father, John Phelps, was a wealthy and respectable farmer of that place, and a soldier of the revolution. Samuel was graduated at Yale College in 1811, with credit to himself, although considerably younger than most of his class,—among whom were Hon. John M. Clayton of Delaware, and Hon. Roger S. Sherman of Connecticut. The following winter he spent at the Litchfield law school, and attended the lectures of Judge Reeve and Judge Gould. In the following spring he came to Middlebury, and continued his studies in the office of Hon. Horatio Seymour. At the time of the declaration of war in 1812, he was a decided supporter of the administration. Soon after hostilities commenced, he was drafted as one of 100,000 men, who were to hold themselves in readiness. During the summer he was ordered to the Canadian frontier, and served in the ranks at Burlington and Plattsburgh. In the fall he received the appointment of paymaster in the United States service. In this capacity he remained while his services were needed.

On his return to Middlebury he resumed his law studies, and was admitted to practice at the December Term 1814. He continued in extensive and successful practice in this and other Counties until 1831. In the meantime, in 1827, he was elected one of the Council of Censors. The address to the people, put forth by this Council, was written by him. In 1831 he was chosen a member of the legislative council, and during the session of the legislature that year he was elected a judge of the Supreme Court. This office he held by successive elections until 1838. In the autumn of that year he was elected to the senate of the United States, his term to commence on the 4th of March following. In the fall of 1844 he was re-elected for a second term, which expired on the 3d of March 1851.

Judge Phelps was distinguished, as a judge, by his clear, discrim-

*In the Whig Review July 1850, is a biographical sketch of Judge Phelps, written by J. H. Barrett, Esq., then editor of the Middlebury Register. We use some of its materials, and such others as are within our reach, in forming this notice.

inating and comprehensive views, and thorough mastery of his subject; and his decisions, as they appear in the reports from 1831 to 1838, were distinguished by clear, forcible and convincing arguments and language. He left the bench with a prominent reputation. He was distinguished by similar traits as an advocate. In this character his reputation was not confined to his own state or to New England. His arguments, before the Supreme Court of the United States, have made him known generally as a cogent and powerful reasoner, and his talents were recognized by distinguished men, capable of judging.

As a senator, Judge Phelps was cautious and conservative, and did not incline to take a leading position, as some of his friends thought he ought. He did not make himself common as a speaker, but reserved his efforts for the more important questions and occasions. But his influence, though silent, was felt, and his reputation recognized through the senate as a statesman of sound, discriminating and practical talents. Several of his speeches, which were published, gave him a prominent reputation through the country. His labors on the committees of claims and Indian affairs were highly appreciated, and it is said that the recommendation of his reports, fortified as they were by a clear, definite statement of the case, were seldom, if ever, rejected.

After the close of his second term in the senate, Judge Phelps retired to private life in his own home, and employed himself, as far as he had leisure from other avocations, in the superintendence of his farm. But he was frequently called from his retirement for counsel and professional aid in the trial of important causes, in different parts of the state, and beyond its limits.

While Judge Phelps was thus situated, Daniel Webster died, October 24, 1852, and his friends in Middlebury decided to take some notice of so important an event, appointed a meeting to be held on the 11th of November, and requested Judge Phelps to deliver an address on the occasion. He was well qualified to perform this service, for he had been long personally acquainted with Webster in all the positions in which his talents as a statesman and advocate had been exhibited. On the day appointed, a large audience assem-

bled in the Congregational church, and Judge Phelps delivered an unwritten address, for nearly two hours, to a quiet and interested assembly. He took advantage of his text,—the life and character of Daniel Webster,—to impress upon his audience his own views on many important political subjects, and on the true character of a statesman. Application was made to him, numerously signed, requesting a copy for publication. But for some reason it was never furnished. Being an unwritten address, he probably found no sufficient leisure to write it out.

One of the deepest convictions, which seemed to occupy the mind of Judge Phelps, in the later years of his life, was, that the continuance of our civil and political institutions depends wholly on the influence of Christian principle among the people. In his eulogy on Daniel Webster, there was no topic, which he more earnestly pressed, and no trait in his character, which he more earnestly commended, than that, being a descendant of the puritans, he was an inheritor of their principles.

In January 1853, occurred the death of Mr. Upham, then United States Senator from this State. Judge Phelps being in Washington on other business, Governor Fairbanks sent him an appointment to supply the vacancy. He remained in discharge of the duties of that position through that session. At the “next meeting,” in the ensuing fall, the legislature failed to make an appointment, and it was a mooted question whether a senator appointed by the executive would not continue to fill the vacancy, while it should last. By the solicitation of his friends, he went on, at the next session, to claim his seat, but a majority of the senate decided against his claim.

Judge Phelps died at his residence on the 25th of March 1855, in the sixty-second year of his age.

Jonathan Hagar, brother of Thomas Hagar, had also been in business in Montreal, and at the commencement of the war of 1812, retreated from Canada and settled in Middlebury. He entered extensively into the mercantile business, and for its accommodation erected the large brick building next west of the brick house built by John Warren. He also soon after built the two dwelling houses, on the east side of the Weybridge road, next north of his late resi-

dence, now severally owned by Chester Elmer and Orin Abby. On the lot where he resided was a small house built by David H. Griswold, who, at an early day, commenced and for a few years continued the practice of law. Here Mr. Hagar built the two story front, and resided in it with his family until his decease. It is now owned by Rev. Joseph Steele and is the residence of his family. After a few years, Mr. Hagar exchanged his former business for book selling, which he continued until his infirmities forced him to retire from it. He was employed in various offices and trusts, and among them was treasurer of the County, and treasurer of the Middlebury Savings Bank for many years preceding his death. He was also representative of the town in the legislature for three or four years. He died in April 1855, at the age of seventy-seven.

The lot now owned and occupied by Russell Vaillett Esq., between Mr. Steele's residence above mentioned, and the Wilder lot occupied by the family of the late William Flagg, was owned, by a title derived from Appleton Foot, by Gen. Hastings Warren, who built a small house on it, and, on the 6th of March 1815, sold it to Nichols and Pierpoint, cabinet makers from Litchfield Conn. They built a shop on it for the use of their business, and occupied it for several years. The present house was built by Mr. Vaillett.

Mr. James Jewett commenced his apprenticeship, in the cloth dressing business, with John Warren in 1797. In 1806 he entered into partnership with Warren, and they together purchased the carding machines of Artemas Nixon, which he established here in 1801, and which were the first brought into the county, and added them to their other business. Mr. Jewett soon after purchased of Elias Hall part of a lot, which he had a few years before purchased of Col. Storrs, and erected the dwelling house, in which he has ever resided. On the other part of the lot, owned and lately occupied by Jason Davenport, Hall drew a blacksmith shop and fitted it up, which, he says, is the same dwelling house now there.

The lands in this neighborhood were purchased of Col. Storrs and occupied at an early day, but the original settlers and their successors were mostly temporary residents. The first house on the lot, where George Cleveland Esq. resided for many years before his

death, and now occupied by Professor Parker, was built by Nathan Hubbard. From him Cleveland purchased it, and about the year 1814, enlarged the old house or built a new one for his residence. He came to Middlebury as early as 1805 or 1806, and pursued the mercantile business for several years. He was appointed collector of the direct tax under the administration of Mr. Madison, and held the office of postmaster for twenty years from 1809. He died in February 1851, aged eighty-two years, and his widow, who survived him, in May 1853, at the age of eighty-seven years.

Soon after the present road was laid out to Cornwall in 1803, Ethan Andrus Esq. from Cornwall, owning a farm on that road, built the house now occupied by the family of the late Dea. Cyrus Porter,* until he exchanged his farm in Cornwall with Dr. Matthews as elsewhere stated. After this he resided in the Matthews house until his death in 1841 at the age of eighty-five years.

In 1810, Jonathan Blin from Orwell, purchased the house above mentioned, built by Andrus, and after residing in it a few years sold it to William G. Hooker, and purchased the lot on the corner, made by the Cornwall road and the street running south, on which had been erected a small house still standing, and built the present two story house. He resided here while he lived. He died in 1832, at the age of seventy-one years.

We here close our minute details of the settlement of the village. In a few instances we have gone beyond our original design. There are still many other cases, especially on streets more recently opened, which our limits do not permit us to notice. With these we include the residences on the Grammar School Common.

*Dea. Cyrus Porter from Farmington, Conn., purchased this farm of Dr. William G. Hooker, in February 1820, and about that time moved on to it, with his family and resided on it until the time of his death, which took place April 1, 1857, at the age of 62 years. He was an active and efficient member and deacon of the Congregational Church, and a respectable citizen. His death was a very sore affliction to his widow and numerous family, as well as serious loss to the church.

CHAPTER XIII.

CONDITION OF THE VILLAGE AT AN EARLY DAY—GROWTH AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE VILLAGE—INCORPORATION.

To our more detailed account we add here some statements respecting the general condition of the village, at different periods.

None but an enterprising and persevering population would have undertaken to build up a village where this stands. The thick hemlock and pine forest, which covered it, as well as the soil, was uncommonly forbidding. The first settlements were made only with reference to the establishment of mills and the necessary dwellings for that purpose. The settlers were poor, and were induced to open, in the forest, only a sufficient space for the erection of their buildings, and perhaps gardens. The trees on the common on the east side of the creek were probably cut down in 1789, two years after Judge Painter moved here; and it is stated by Asaph Drake Esq. of Weybridge, that they were still lying on the ground in 1793, when he first came into the country.

Mr. Abram Williamson of Cornwall, then fourteen years of age, came into the country in March 1790, and drove an ox team loaded with the goods of the family, while the snow was melting. He states, that the trees on the common were cut down and lying on the ground; that a passage for a team was opened through them; that when driving through, his sled was several times fastened on the ends of the logs, and that he was obliged to get help to disengage it; and that there was very little clearing about the village. At that time, he says, there were six or eight pine trees about Stillman Foot's house, near enough to fall on it, if falling in that direction. There was no framed house at that time on the west side of the creek but Stillman Foot's, and no other on either side, unless

Judge Painter's was such. Samuel Miller had the year before built his office, which probably was a framed building. Mrs. Williamson, his wife, daughter of Samuel Blodget, and grand-daughter of Asa Blodget, says that the elder James Bentley lived on the ridge south of Davenport's new house, with his daughter Mrs. Johnson, wife of Hop Johnson, who had then left the country, and she recollects no other dwelling house on that side of the creek except Foot's. Mr. Williamson states further, that the stumps of the pine trees remained on the common many years after; that the young men in the neighborhood associated together and had a "play day" on Saturday afternoon, and one of their by-laws was that every man, who got drunk should be subjected to the penalty of digging up a stump. By this means many of them were removed. But we can testify that several years after the commencement of the present century many remained. Mr. Williamson says also, that several years after he came into the country, probably in 1794, he was hired with his team, by Anthony Rhodes, to draw off and roll into the creek the logs on the land where Rhodes built his house, near Mr. Starr's office.

Horace Loomis Esq. of Burlington, in the spring of 1790, then fifteen years old, on his way to Burlington, where his father was beginning a settlement, passed through this village, with a drove of sheep, cattle and horses. He states, that the timber on the common was cut down, and that John Deming was then getting out timber for his new house, and he was told there was no frame house in the village.

Mrs. Simmons, widow of John Simmons Esq., and daughter of Harvey Bell, senior, was only four or five years old, when her father came to Middlebury, which she thinks was in 1791. She says there was then a grist mill where Stillman Foot's mills were, and that Appleton's mills were built afterwards; that there was little clearing where her father built his house, or on the opposite side of the road to the creek, and that there were no buildings or clearing on the Weybridge street. The first school on the east side of the creek was kept by Samuel Southworth, the young man who was drowned in the creek, in company with Samuel Painter, in

June 1797, in the south part of the house now owned by Mr. Jackson, that part only being then built. This, she thinks, was a district school. Lyman Pierce set up an opposition school, because Southworth taught the Assembly's catechism. Pierce succeeded Southworth and kept in the same place. Salmon Bell kept a school two summers in her father's shop, on the west side, previous to the schools above mentioned. Miss Huntington kept a school in the court house before Miss Strong came; and Mrs. Simmons attended Miss Strong's school there in 1800. She kept also, probably in the winter, in Dr. Campbell's south chamber. In 1802 and part of the year following, her school was in the south room of Dr. Campbell's house, which had been used for a store.

In the Vermont Mirror, September 15 1813, we find the following article :

" To the editor of the Vermont Mirror :—

In April, 1793, I came to Middlebury, and I counted every building in the village of Middlebury Falls, and found the number to be 62; and in the year 1813, I have counted them again, and find the number to be 316, of which 146 are dwelling houses, 14 ware stores. The dwelling houses, which stood here in 1793, were chiefly log houses, and almost wholly mere temporary buildings, built with small expense. There are now twenty dwelling houses in this village, either of which cost more than every building standing in 1793.

JABEZ ROGERS.

Middlebury, 28th August, 1813."

Mrs. McLeod, who came to the village with her father's family in 1796, states that at that time there were nine families besides her father's on the west side of the creek, and thirty on the east side; that Stillman Foot had a grist mill where the north part of the woolen factory stands, and a saw mill further up the stream, on the rocks back of the factory dry house; below these Appleton Foot had a stone grist mill and saw mill; and below these Jonathan Nichols, Jun. had built and then carried on a forge and gun factory, which afterwards fell into the hands of Anthony Rhodes, who carried them on. Stillman Foot then lived in the house which he had built, and Appleton in the house built by him, where Dr. Harris lives, and

Nichols in a small house, where Capt. Leonard died. Appleton's mill house was built in 1798; Col. Storrs lived in his gambrel roof house, and Harvey Bell in the old house where John Warren afterwards built his brick house. Mrs. McLeod further states, that when she came here, the Grammar school common was a hemlock swamp, and the academy was built in 1798; that the native forest still covered the land from the mills westward to Weybridge street, and that her father's house was exposed from the fire in those woods. John H. Sherrill then had a store, erected by Jabes Rogers, and afterwards occupied by Benjamin Seymour. She also states that the bridge, first built by Daniel Foot and covered with poles, was then standing, and was supported in the middle by a trestle; that she used to *teeter* on it and call it *riding*. The bridge, she says, was about fourteen feet wide, and has been widened wholly by extending further up stream.

Benjamin Lawrence, who came to Middlebury in 1797, states that there was no house then on the Weybridge street, and the land was covered with woods; that Anthony Rhodes' was the only two story house on the west side of the bridge, and there were only five on the east, including the old jail house. He and Mrs. McLeod say that the first school they had knowledge of, was kept by Lyman Pierce in the south part of the Jackson house.

Capt. Thomas M. Fitch* came to Middlebury, from Windham, Conn., in December, 1794, then about 14 years of age. Mattock's tavern house was then built, and Samuel Foot kept a tavern in the Deming house. These were the only two story houses in the village. Samuel Miller resided in his back kitchen. Stumps and logs were still remaining on the common, and there was a muddy hollow just north of the bridge, running down to the watering place, over

*Capt. Fitch served his apprenticeship, at the carpenter's trade, with Col. Nathaniel Ripley, and after he came of age, established himself in New Haven. He afterwards returned to Middlebury and purchased the lot and built the house now occupied by the family of the late Martin S. Dorrance on the Papermill road. Here he resided until within two or three years he went to reside with his son-in-law David E. Boyce. Martin S. Dorrance referred to above, after a long and distressing sickness, in which he gradually declined, died on the 21st August 1858. at the age of fifty-five

which there was a bridge for persons on foot, and it was very miry to near the Congregational church, where there has been generally in the spring a spot of deep mire. Only about an acre was cleared on the lot where Mr. Chipman afterwards built his large house. The woods on the hill came down near the present brick house; and except the clearing Freeman Foot had made near his house, the woods extended to the creek. There was an old school house on Dr. Bass's land, on the rising ground beyond his house, and a dwelling house opposite, and a road open from there south to the Selleck lot, on which Hezekiah Wadsworth had a house. Capt. Fitch is able to reckon up only about thirty-two dwelling houses, of all descriptions, in the village.

Rev. Timothy Dwight, D. D., then president of Yale College, among his several visits, to which we shall again refer, was in Middlebury in 1798. The following is a part of his record of this visit. "The township of Middlebury began to be settled about the year 1783. About 1794, the inhabitants began to build a village on both sides of the river, at the falls in the north-west part of the township. The number of houses when we were on the spot was perhaps thirty. Several of them were pretty buildings." "Several mills had been erected at this place in 1798. A brewery had been established, several stores had been built, a considerable number of mechanics and several gentlemen in the liberal professions had chosen this spot as their residence. An academy was also nearly completed, which was intended to be the germ of a future college. Upon the whole the seeds of future respectability were already sown."

Notwithstanding such was the condition of the village at the periods above mentioned, the inhabitants had the courage in 1799 to invite the legislature to hold its session here the following year, and the invitation was accepted. The anticipation of this great event produced a universal stir among the population to make the requisite preparations for it. Some built new houses; others enlarged and repaired their old ones, and all were made ready for the reception of boarders. The legislature, whose session was held here in 1806, were provided with still better accommodations.

GROWTH AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE VILLAGE.

THE inducement for establishing the village was of course the water power furnished by the falls. But its growth and prosperity are not a little owing to the character of the first settlers. They were almost universally enterprising, industrious and devoted to its reputation. The population of the whole town in 1791 was only 395. From this time it began gradually to increase, in the village as well as in the town. But the immigrants were poor, as those of all new countries then were. Their first object was to obtain the necessaries of life. At an early period the houses were almost universally small. Many more kitchens were built than parlors, and the surroundings corresponded. But the tenements were gradually enlarged and improved, as the means were provided. Soon after the commencement of the present century, some of the old houses were replaced by larger and more commodious dwellings. Dr. Dwight says.—“In both these journeys, (in 1806 and 1810) and particularly in the latter, I found Middlebury changed into a beautiful town, consisting of about one hundred and fifty houses. The inhabitants had finished a large and handsome church. The private dwellings are generally neat, and in several instances handsome. The town contains a book store, a printing office, twelve or fifteen stores, belonging to merchants and druggists, and a great number of Mechanics’ shops.” “At the same time, religion had prevailed in this town more than any other in the state; and controls very obviously the manners and the character of the inhabitants, in a degree uncommon and delightful.” “On the whole Middlebury is one of the most prosperous and most virtuous towns in New England.”

From 1800 to 1820, and especially from 1810 to the latter period, the business of the village rapidly increased. During this period, it was the centre of mechanical and mercantile business, to a much larger extent than afterwards. In no place were the mechanics especially more prosperous, and several were ruined by their prosperity. Their rapid accumulations induced a thirst for still larger incomes, and they exchanged the business with which they were acquainted, for that of which they had no knowledge. In the meantime, mechanics and some merchants had established themselves in

the neighboring towns, from which much of the business of the village had been derived. The opening of the Northern Canal by the State of New York, not long previous to the last mentioned period, created a heavy draft upon the business of the place. Previous to that, a large share of the business from the north-eastern towns in the county centred here, which was afterwards drawn to Vergennes, where they met navigable water, which connected them with New York. The business of the western towns was also drawn to the shores of the lake for the same reason. The business since that time has scarcely increased, and has, in some branches, diminished. The population and number of buildings have, in the meantime, increased slowly. As the census of the village has never been taken separately from the town, we are not able to ascertain the progress correctly. In the year 1840, according to the census taken in that year, the population of the town appeared to have diminished, in the preceding ten years, about three hundred, and it was supposed to be owing to a large emigration, and extended to the village, as well as other parts of the town. But it was understood at the time that the census that year was carelessly and incorrectly taken. As an evidence that it was so, it appeared by the census of 1850, that the population had increased much more for the previous ten years, than it had diminished in the same period previous to 1840. At our request, David S. Church, Esq., who made the last enumeration, as deputy marshal, has separated the number in the village from the rest of the town, and makes the population in that year 2070.

The effect of the rail road passing through the village, on the business and population, is not yet very obvious. But our opinion is that both have increased, and we anticipate that the next census will show it. This road, connecting us directly with the great markets, will give our business men an advantage which will, we think, draw back much of the business which has been lost. The road, we expect, will also bring into market a large amount of water power now unemployed. Besides, as the farming country is obviously enriched by the road, this also will increase the business and wealth of the village.

If we cannot boast of any rapid increase of population and busi-

ness, for some past years, we think we can safely claim that the village has improved in its appearance. A few old houses have been replaced by better, and more have been enlarged and improved by internal as well as external alterations. The yards, out houses and other surroundings have been put into better taste. Our efforts, at planting ornamental trees, were commenced with Lombardy poplars, which soon became unpopular and were cut down. These were succeeded by locust trees, but the borers soon began their depredations on these, and they too were given up. Since that we have planted, as successfully as our stiff soil will permit, our native forest, with some exotic trees and shrubs, in our yards and commons and along our streets. The same expense never added greater improvement to a village, than the sum expended in inclosing and ornamenting the principal park on the east side of the creek. The ground, before that, was uneven, gullied and an almost naked mass of clay. Since that the two small parks east of it, the small park west of the creek, and more recently the large park on the Grammar School Common, and the ornamented college grounds, have added still further improvements. So that, with all our obstacles, the appearance of our village passes, among strangers, as quite respectable.

INCORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE.

Among the objects, which seemed to demand some efficient organization, the means of preventing and extinguishing fire had been long regarded as most pressing. Its destructive effects had been experienced over almost the whole surface of the village, and swept away a vast amount of property, as our history shows. As early as 1808, the legislature on application, passed an act, incorporating a Fire Society, with ample powers, by the appointment of fire-wardens and otherwise to extinguish fires. A company was formed, and a large engine obtained. The engine, through neglect, went out of repair, and for want of sufficient interest in the subject, the company went to decay; the corporation was left with a small debt, for which the engine was sold on execution for a nominal sum. Thus ended the efforts and the existence of the Fire Society. This failure was attributed, we suppose correctly, to the fact, that the

purpose of the association, being limited to a single object, could not keep up interest enough to sustain it.

Accordingly in 1816, on application for that purpose, the legislature passed an act incorporating the "Borough of Middlebury," with power to hold property for the use of the borough, erect public buildings, levy and collect taxes, make bylaws, appoint fire-wardens and organize a fire company. Under this act the borough was organized, by-laws and ordinances were established, taxes assessed, and some new measures adopted for the prevention of fire. But the taxes were unpopular, the organization came into disrepute, and ran down and died. The act of incorporation was revived by the legislature in 1832, the name was changed to the "Village of Middlebury," and provision was made for the election of seven trustees instead of five bailiffs, provided for in the original act, and with the same powers. An amendment of this act, by the legislature in 1845, provides that the highways and streets in the village should be regarded as "village highways and streets," and gives the trustees the exclusive control of the streets, "with the grounds and walks of the same," and authorizes them to "receive and expend for the purposes aforesaid, such portion of the ordinary highway tax, assessed upon the inhabitants of said village and property therein, as may be assigned them by the selectmen of the town," which shall not be less than one third." These acts have been hitherto efficient in accomplishing the objects for which they were designed. The streets and walks and commons have been improved, and what is more important perhaps, an efficient fire company has been formed and kept alive, engines have been provided and preserved in a new and substantial building erected for that purpose, and a vast amount of property has been saved from the destructive effects of fire.

CHAPTER XIV.

ORGANIZATION — CORPORATE PROCEEDINGS.

SOME facts belonging to the history of the town may be best understood by the proceedings of their meetings. We therefore copy a few of their records, with some explanations.

The town was organized, and the first meeting held, "at the house of Mr. Daniel Foot, March 29, 1786," and the following is the record of their proceedings :

"Voted 1st, Benjamin Risley, Moderator.

"Voted 2dly, Joshua Hyde, town clerk, and sworn.

"Voted 3dly, Thomas Hinman, Constable, and sworn.

"Voted 4thly, To dissolve the meeting.

At the annual meeting, March 29, 1787, John Chipman was chosen moderator; Robert Huston, Town Clerk; Martin Foot Constable. At a special meeting, January 1, 1788, Jonathan Chipman and Robert Huston were chosen listers. No other officers at this time had been chosen in town.

At the annual meeting, March 24, 1788, "Capt. Stephen Goodrich, Joshua Hyde and John Chipman, Esq.," were chosen selectmen; and all the other usual town officers, as they were at all subsequent annual meetings. At this meeting it was "voted, that we will lay a tax of one shilling on a pound, on the grand list of 1788, to be worked out on the roads at 4s. per day, and six pence on the pound, to be paid in wheat at 4s. 6d. per bushel."

At a special meeting, September 2, 1788, it was

"Voted, that Gamaliel Painter, Esq. be directed to forward a petition to the General Assembly, in October next, petitioning that honorable body to grant a lottery in order to procure pay for building the bridge across Otter Creek, under such regulations as they, in their wisdom, shall think proper."

"Voted, to recommend Elijah Foot, Esq., of New Haven, Hiland Hall, Esq., of Cornwall, and Mr. Daniel Foot, of Middlebury, managers of said lottery."

Daniel Foot had, the previous year, with some voluntary aid from the neighbors, built a bridge across the creek where the present bridge stands. The object of this vote was to raise funds to defray the expense. Instead of the lottery, the legislature granted a tax

of one penny per acre on the lands in Middlebury, and out of the proceeds of the tax, one half the expense of the bridge was paid to Daniel Foot. A similar tax was assessed on Cornwall to pay the other half. Ebenezer Johnson was appointed collector of the tax on Middlebury, and several lots were sold for the tax, and deeds given by him.

The following vote was passed, January 25, 1790 :

“Whereas, Daniel Foot was prosecuted for blocking up a certain road, and found guilty at a justice court holden by Gamaliel Painter, Esq. on the 8th day of April, 1789, and the fine being the property of the town said Foot moved to have said town relinquish said fine, and seconded, the vote being, was carried in the affirmative.” March, 1790, “Voted that the selectmen shall keep a regular account of all town expenses the year ensuing, and lay it before the town, at their next March meeting, for their concurrence”

April 12 1790, ‘Voted, to have one burying place, as near the centre of the town as the land will admit’ “Voted, that the selectmen be a committee to procure a place or places to bury the dead.” “Voted that there be one burying place at the north end, and one at the south end of the town.” “Voted that the selectmen lease out the school lots, for the term of ten years, to the best advantage they can.”

June 15, 1790, “Voted that we will build a meeting house.” “Voted to choose a committee to fix on a place to set the meeting house, and draw a plan and lay it before the town at some future day.” “Voted John Chipman, Esq., Daniel Foot, Capt. Stephen Goodrich, Gamaliel Painter, Esq. and Joshua Hyde be a committee for the above purpose.”

September 7, 1790, “Voted Samuel Miller, Esq. and Joshua Hyde be a committee to draw a conveyance between Philip Foot and Appleton Foot and the town of Middlebury, to convey land for said town for a common.” “Voted to divide the town into school districts;” and a committee of five was appointed “to divide the town into districts, and report at a future day.” In pursuance of these proceedings, the town, on the 7th December following, was divided into four districts,—the south, north-east, middle and north-west.

The first of the above votes was passed, as it will be seen, in anticipation of the report of the committee “to fix the place to set the meeting house,” which was made afterwards. The location of the meeting house had already become a subject of anxiety and some agitation, as it was expected to fix the centre of business for the town.

A meeting was warned at the request of eight citizens, December 22, 1791, “To see whether the town will fix upon a centre or place for a meeting house, whenever they shall agree to build one, and see whether they will agree that a house large enough to contain the people, for several years, may be built there by individuals, without expense to the town at large, to attend public worship in, till a more

proper meeting house can be built. And the design is to give satisfaction to Mr. Barnett, who is uneasy in his present situation. His house, as he observes, is neither decent nor comfortable. He would prepare to build next summer, was he certain that his land would be near the centre." This meeting was adjourned to the 29th of the same month, when a majority of the committee appointed for that purpose, Daniel Foot, Stephen Goodrich and Joshua Hyde, made their report, as follows :

"We the subscribers, being appointed a committee to pitch on a proper place to build a meeting house, and fix on a green, make the following report, viz, that it is our opinion that it be on the west side of the north and south road, in the corner of Philip Foot and Appleton Foot's land,—provided they, the said Philip and Appleton, throw out a green twenty-four rods square, including the roads, and also four rods wide on the west side of the north and south road, from said green north, to where it intersects the road that leads to the falls." Whereupon it was

"Voted to accept the above report, provided the said Foot's lease the above described land to the town for the use of a green, as long as they shall want it for that purpose ; and also voted that there may be a house built on said green, large enough to meet in for public worship on Sundays, for several years, by individuals, without expense to the town at large."

March 1792. "Voted to lay a tax of two pence half penny, on the pound, on the list of 1791,—said tax to be collected by the first day of January 1793, in wheat at 4s 6d per bushel ; fifteen pounds of said tax, when collected, to be appropriated to the use of making a road across the mountain beyond Seeley's ;* and any person, that chooses to work out their tax on said road, may have the privilege, on condition that they do said work before the 15th day of June next, by the directions and to the acceptance of the selectmen, and a certificate of said selectmen of any person doing work on said road as aforesaid, shall answer on said tax."

"Voted, that if Mr. Daniel Foot build a house, suitable for the inhabitants of Middlebury to meet in on Sundays, and to do public business on other days, after said house is completed suitable for to meet in as above described, then said town is to pay said Foot yearly the lawful interest of the sum that said house is worth in cash, providing the value do not exceed the sum of one hundred and twenty pounds ; said interest to be paid said Foot yearly, as long as said town makes use of said house, for the purposes above mentioned."

September 3, 1793. "Voted to raise a tax of three pence on a pound, on the list of the year, 1793, to be paid into the treasury of the town, by the first day of December next, in wheat at 4s per bushel, for the purpose of covering the bridge at the falls with oak plank, for procuring weights and measures for said town, and other incidental charges."

"Voted Capt. Stephen Goodrich and Gamaliel Painter, Esq., be a committee to superintend the covering the bridge at the falls "

The bridge, built by Daniel Foot in 1787, was covered with poles,

*Justus Seeley, at an early day settled, and then lived, where Hendrick Hier has since lived, and where his sons, Eber and Justice now live.

from the neighboring forest, which had probably much decayed, and the oak plank were designed to supply their places.

At a meeting at the house of John Foot, on the 9th day of December 1791 notified on the application of twelve free holders

“ 2, to see if the inhabitants of said town will reconsider the former vote of building a meeting house, where the stake was pitched. 3, to agree upon a place to build a meeting house 4, if no place can be agreed on; to choose a committee to fix on a place to build said house 5, to see if the inhabitants will agree to lay a tax for the purpose of building said house. 6, to agree on a place or places for holding meetings this winter;” the following is the record of the proceedings :

“ The 2d article with regard to re-considering the former vote of building a meeting house, at the place where the stake was pitched, was tried and passed in the negative, and of course the 3rd and 4th articles fell. The fifth article was then taken up and passed in the negative.”

“ Voted to meet at Samuel Mattocks’, till such time as the selectmen shall notify the town, that Mr. Daniel Foot’s house is convenient, and then at such place as they shall direct, for public worship on Sundays.”

Previous to the meeting held in December 1791, the town and religious meetings had been uniformly held at Daniel Foot’s. He had built a large barn, just south of the place, where his large house was afterwards built, for the express purpose of accommodating the meetings : and in this building Mr. Barnett had been ordained. During this time Mr. Foot had declined further to accommodate the meeting. For two or three years the town meetings had been for some reason, held at Philip Foot’s and Appleton Foot’s, in the same neighborhood, and the religious meetings, in the summer of 1793, were held in Dea. Sumner’s barn. During this time much excitement had arisen, in relation to the place for the centre of town business. The people, in the neighborhood of Mr. Foot, and in the south part of the town, were anxious to have the question settled, by fixing on the place for erecting a meeting house ; while the people of the village, and the inhabitants north of it “ played off,” to use a familiar expression.

The village had the advantage of an excellent water power, with mills on both sides. Mechanics and merchants had begun to crowd into it: the only lawyer and the only physicians in town had located themselves there ; the legislature at their session in 1791, had directed the courts of the county to be held there, and the population and business of the place were fast increasing. The inhabitants of

the village therefore looked forward with confidence to the time when they would have such a decided majority of the votes as to control the decision of the question, and were not in a hurry to have it then settled. This will be readily perceived by the proceedings we have copied above. They were willing to take a lease of land "for the use of a green, *as long as they shall want it for that purpose.*" They would pay the "interest of the sum that" the meeting house to be built at the expense of Daniel Foot "is worth in cash," "as long as said town makes use of said house." And when it was voted to hold meetings at Mattocks' in the village, with an apparent intention to return, it was on such conditions as to render that event hopeless. On the other hand, it is said Mr. Foot being dissatisfied with the delay in settling the question, declined further to accommodate the meetings, for the purpose of pressing the town to a decision. Mr. Barnett also, having purchased a lot directly opposite the place where the meeting house was expected to be built, began to be uneasy. But the decision was virtually made. The religious meetings were never afterwards held out of the village. The town meetings were, for a time, held at Philip Foot's and Appleton Foot's. But at the annual meeting in 1796, as will be seen, the question was finally settled, and the meetings were ordered to be held in the village "in future."

March meeting, 1795, "Voted that there be five selectmen for the year ensuing; that they shall not have any compensation for their services." The selectmen chosen were Joshua Hyde, Stephen Goodrich, Nathaniel Munger, Ebenezer Severance and Daniel Chipman, who were also appointed "a committee to examine the bridge at the falls and repair it, if it wants."

"March, 1796, "Voted to receive that part of the town of Cornwall, and petition the legislature to have the same annexed to the town of Middlebury, which said town of Cornwall have voted should be annexed to said Middlebury."

"Voted not to set off the westerly part of Middlebury to Cornwall."

"Voted that the house of Samuel Mattocks be the place of holding town and freemen's meetings in future."

The annual March meeting in 1798, was notified to be held at Samuel Mattocks', but was immediately adjourned to the Court House, that building having been finished about this time. At this meeting it was "Voted to divide the town into three pound districts, to wit: one pound to be erected at the corner of the road by Capt.

Goodrich's; one at the corner of the road south of Abel Case's, and one at the corner of the roads south of Martin Everts', and north of Martin Foot's." "Voted, each district to build their own pounds at their own expense."

At the annual meeting in 1825, on the application of the Episcopal Society, it was voted to grant that society the privilege of erecting their church on the public common, provided it should be built of bricks or stone; and a committee was appointed to fix the location. The present church was accordingly erected, at the place recommended by the committee. A similar privilege was afterwards granted to the Methodist and Baptist societies. But neither of these has taken advantage of the privilege.

At the time the court house was divided into two stories, it was proposed that the town should have the exclusive use of the lower room, provided they should pay towards the expense two hundred and fifty dollars. This proposition was accepted by the town meeting held on the 2d day of September, 1828, and the amount was accordingly paid. Previous to this, the town and freemen's meetings had been held in the court room, from the time of its erection. The town also paid \$137 towards the alteration and repairs of the building in 1844.

CHAPTER XV.

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES—EARLY SURVEYS—MODE OF REPAIRING—BRIDGE AT THE FALLS—THREE MILE BRIDGE—CENTRE TURNPIKE—WALTHAM—ROADS ABOUT VILLAGE.

THE first settlers made their way to their neighbors by marked trees, or by paths cut through the forest by themselves, as their necessities required. The first highways laid out by any authority, so far as we can learn, were surveyed in April, 1786, by a committee appointed by the proprietors, consisting of Benjamin Risley, John Chipman, Robert Huston and Jonathan Chipman. The FIRST was a road eight rods wide, commencing on the south line of the town, near "the north-west corner of the dwelling house of Capt. Painter," and running north on the west line of the west tier of home lots, to New Haven line. This wide road, running through what was intended as the centre of the town, was designed as a trunk road, with which the cross roads were to be connected as branches. It was re-surveyed by the selectmen in 1788, as far as Philip Foot's farm, where the road to the falls leaves it. In September, 1789, the remainder was resurveyed to the New Haven line, but was never opened further north than Nichols and Wheeler's mill, where Philip Foot, about that time, built a saw-mill. The SECOND was a six rods road, from the south line of the town, near Capt. Boardman's, northerly until it unites with the first highway, near Allen Foot's. This road, passing by the dwelling houses of the late Martin Foot and Martin Everts, was designed to connect the Hyde and Torrance neighborhood with the centre. The THIRD road surveyed at that time was four rods wide, and commenced in the west line of the last mentioned, where "that crosses the river" near the poor house, and ran westerly, by Jonathan Seeley's, to the bank of the creek near

the three mile bridge. The fourth commenced where the last terminated, and ran along the east bank of the creek, through where the village now is, to New Haven line. This highway, from where it leaves the creek northerly, was six rods wide, and south of it, four rods. The fifth was four rods wide, commencing at the Salisbury line, and running by "the now dwelling house of Thomas Chipman," near Lochlin Wainwright's present house, and crosses the river near Jonathan. Seeley's, and unites with the third of the above mentioned roads. The sixth is a six rods road, and begins "in the west line of an eight rods highway and on a public lot," (probably the glebe lot,) next east of the town plat, and north of Philip Foot's farm, and runs westerly by Eli Matthews', "to the west line of the highway running from the falls to New Haven," near the falls. The selectmen, in 1783, laid out a road from Philip Foot's, and running into this near Millen Stowell's. In November of that year, the selectmen also laid a highway, called "Preston's road," six rods wide, running southerly through Munger Street, thence easterly by Abel Case's to the line between the two tiers of home lots, and on that line to Torrance's. This line, south of the late Samuel Severance's, has been discontinued. Other highways have been, from time to time, located and altered by the selectmen. For an account of these, we commend the study of the town clerk's records to those who are interested in such studies.

All highways in a new country, especially in a stiff clay soil, like that of Middlebury, after they are opened, are sufficiently difficult to travel, especially in a wet season. Persons who are accustomed only to our present conveniences for travel, and have no experience of travelling through a region in the process of being cleared of a dense forest, have little conception of the state of the roads in the early settlement of the town. Something may be learned on that subject by the representations stated elsewhere.

The opening and repairing roads and building bridges is one of the first necessities of a new country. At the first town meeting when any business was done, except the appointment of officers necessary for the nominal organization of the town, a tax was laid "to be worked out on the road;" and a similar tax was laid, at every

subsequent town meeting, for several years. At an early day also when the inhabitants were few, and the lands were owned mostly by absent proprietors, the legislature, in several instances, imposed taxes on all the lands for this purpose. According to the general laws of the State subsequently adopted, the selectmen in each town were required to assess a tax, prescribed in the statute, to be paid in labor on the highways. The town annually appointed the requisite number of surveyors, to each of whom the selectmen assigned an appropriate district; and the inhabitants in each assembled, under the order and notice of the surveyor, with suitable tools and teams, and were set to work. For the building of expensive bridges, or when other extraordinary expenses were required, the towns were authorized to lay an extra tax. This system was adapted to the early settlement of the country, when labor was more abundant than money, and every one felt an urgent necessity to have the roads improved. But in time it became less efficient, and the inhabitants became more and more inclined to pay their taxes, with as little labor as possible. To encourage the payment of money instead of labor, the legislature enacted, that every tax payer should have the right to pay his tax in money, at a discount of twenty-five per cent. This was an improvement of the system, but in this town it has not provided such roads as we ought to have. The responsibility is divided among too many surveyors, and little care is taken of the roads, except at the general gathering in the spring. The expenses of the ordinary small bridges have generally been paid from the ordinary highway tax. But the expense of bridges, over the creek and Middlebury River, have been paid from the funds of the town.

The first bridge over the creek at the falls, subsequent to that built by Daniel Foot in 1787, was erected in 1799. The first bridge over the creek near Mr. Piper's, called the Three Mile Bridge, of which we have any knowledge, was built in 1801, although probably some cheap bridge had been built before. It appears by the proceedings of the town in November 1800, that measures were adopted for that purpose; it was then called the "bridge at Mr. Henshaw's farm,"—Joshua Henshaw then owning the farm

now belonging to Mr. Piper. The bridge at the falls was next rebuilt in 1811; and again in 1823, it was still more thoroughly rebuilt, from a tax of five cents on a dollar, and made payable in materials, beef cattle, or money at a discount of 12 1-2 per cent. The old wooden abutments were replaced with stone, and extended farther into the river. One stone pier was built, but the committee supposed a wooden trestle would be sufficient for the other part of the bridge. The result was, that in the spring freshet in 1832, the trestle was swept away, and that part of the bridge fell. The other stone pier was then built, and that part of the bridge rebuilt, and the timbers on the north part replaced a few years after. Besides some incidental repairs and some new timbers, the whole bridge has not been built anew since 1823, until the summer of 1855. At that time a more firm and commodious bridge, than ever before, was erected under the superintendence of Mr. Calvin Hill, first selectman, and Mr. David Piper, architect. The abutments, piers and bridge were raised two feet, with a broad side walk on each side, extending their width beyond the whole width of the former bridge.

The Three Mile Bridge, across the creek, and the road leading from it to Cornwall, were not so much used by the people of Middlebury as by other travellers, and the town, desiring to get rid of the expense of supporting them, at their meeting in March, 1815, voted to discontinue both. At the term of the County Court in December, 1822, on the report of a committee appointed on the petition of some of the inhabitants west of the creek, the court ordered a new highway to be established, somewhat varying from the old one. At the next March meeting, in 1823, the selectmen were ordered to build the bridge and "repair the road to Cornwall, or build a new one." The selectmen not promptly obeying the order, the town was indicted for the delay, and at the December term, 1824, were fined \$284, with costs. At the next March meeting, in 1825, the town laid a tax to pay the judgment, with which the bridge and road were built. Since that time the town has supported both. The present covered bridge was built in 1836.

At the commencement of the present century, there was about as much enthusiasm for turnpikes, to supply the deficiency of common

roads, as there has been recently for rail roads, and with about the same results. The inhabitants of Middlebury, desirous of having a more commodious connection with towns east of the mountain, the legislature, at their session in this place in 1800, with half a dozen other charters, incorporated the Centre Turnpike Company, with the privilege of making a turnpike from the Court House in Middlebury to Woodstock, with a branch to Royalton. This was a great undertaking at the time, and the road was not wholly completed until 1808. The toll on the road has never been sufficient to keep the road in good repair, and has since, after a long struggle, been surrendered to the several towns, except a short piece in Hancock, including the steep descent on the east slope of the mountain, which that town will not consent to take. The road in Middlebury, from the Court House to the foot of the mountain, was surrendered to the town by act of the legislature in 1817. From the foot of the mountain east, more recently surrendered, the town has paid \$200. Daniel Chipman and Judge Keyes, of Stockbridge, were the principal superintendants and contributors, and the road has passed from them with little remuneration for their labor and contributions.

The Waltham Turnpike Company was incorporated in 1805, to construct a road from the termination of the Centre Turnpike to the Court House in Vergennes. Only that part of it which extends from the village to the paper mill bridge was located in Middlebury. Gen. Samuel Strong was the principal manager, and most of the stock fell into his hands. After struggling for many years with various opposing interests, the legislature, in 1828, passed an act declaring the turnpike to be "a free public road," on condition the corporation should relinquish their claim. This they readily did.

We add, in this connection, a few alterations of roads about the village. Previous to the year 1799, the highway running south from the village, passed through Pleasant Street, and in that direction to the creek, and thence southerly on its bank. That year the present road was opened, from the Court House south, and extended, through what was called the Middle Road, to Bethuel Goodrich's, and connected with the creek road near the mile bridge. In the year 1799 the present road to the paper mill was opened, and the

year previous, the road from the Court House to Dr. Bass's. Until about the year 1811, the commonly travelled road from the village to Cornwall passed over the hill north of the college, by the present residence of Abraham L. Williamson, to a road running south by Samuel Blodget's, which is now closed. In 1803 the present road was surveyed to the line of Cornwall, but was not opened for travel beyond the residence of the late Dea. Porter until 1811.

CHAPTER XVI

SUPPORT OF THE POOR.

THE laws of the state make ample provision for the relief of the poor in the several towns: permanently, if they have a settlement, temporarily, when they have no settlement, at the expense of the town where they belong, or at the expense of the state, if they have no settlement in any town in the state. The town of Middlebury, from its organization, has made provision as required by law, for the poor within its limits. But previous to 1822, no poor house had been provided. The necessities of the poor were relieved at their residences, if they had any, and houses were rented for families who had none. In case of individuals, without families, who needed permanent support, they were boarded, at the expense of the town, in private families. Not unfrequently such persons, at public auction, were committed to the care of the lowest bidder. The following are among the records of the town meetings:

March 1, 1804, "Voted that Mrs. Frank, a pauper, be set up to be boarded by the week, to the lowest bidder. She was struck off to James Crane for a dollar a week."

March 24 1817, "Voted to set up some of the town poor to be struck off to the person or persons, who will keep them at the lowest price. Widow Frank bid off by Martin Everts, to be kept for a year at one dollar, ninety-nine cents. Thomas Clark bid off by Joshua Hyde, to be kept for three months, at one dollar a week."

This may not seem to be a very christian mode of disposing of the poor. But we believe they were always committed to respectable families, who provided sufficiently for their comfort. Besides, this Mrs. Frank was looked upon with little favor, and most people thought her inability to support herself arose only from an indolent

and obstinate disposition. At any rate, with all her infirmities, she contrived to outlive, by many years, the patience of the people."

At the annual meeting in 1822, the overseer of the poor was authorized by vote "to rent a poor house under the direction of the selectmen." At the annual meeting in 1823, the town authorized the selectmen to "provide a poor house and furnish employment for the paupers;" and the same vote was repeated at the next annual meeting. Under the authority of this vote, the selectmen had, previous to the annual meeting in 1825, purchased and used for a poor house, the house and lot now owned by Cyrus Morton, on the street leading to the creek, south of the rail road depot. For some reason the town seemed not to have been fully satisfied with this arrangement, and the subject was agitated at several meetings until in March 1829, when it was voted to sell the whole establishment, and it was sold. Other plans were afterwards proposed, and in 1831, a committee was appointed to confer with the other towns in the county, as to the expediency of establishing a county poor house, and petitioning the legislature to authorize it.

At an adjourned meeting in April 1839, it was "Voted to purchase a farm for the accommodation and support of such persons, as are or hereafter may become chargeable to the town, and to provide such buildings and furnish the farm with such stock, as will be necessary for the purpose said farm is intended for." A committee was appointed, with full power to make the purchase and bind the town for the payment,—“provided the amount does not exceed the sum of \$6000.” The committee were also authorized to borrow of the trustees the money belonging to the United States deposit fund, as it shall, from time to time, be paid, and deposit the same with the treasurer, to meet the orders they may draw for the purchase of the farm; and the trustees were directed to collect, within two years, such part of said fund as may be needed for that purpose.

The committee purchased of Dan Dike the farm now occupied for that use, in the south part of the town, containing one hundred acres, with commodious buildings, being the south half of the original Slasson pitch.

At the March meeting in 1842, the selectmen were instructed to

borrow, of the trustees of the deposit fund, "all said fund not already borrowed," except the amount due the State treasurer to meet the claim required to be refunded, after the census of 1840, as elsewhere explained. At the annual meeting in 1844, the selectmen were authorized to purchase an additional tract of land, for the use of the poor establishment, not exceeding in amount the balance of the deposit fund; and they purchased about sixty acres.

There has been expended for the farm, buildings, stock, farming tools and furniture the sum of \$7,013,33. Of the whole fund there has been lost, in small balances, the sum of \$176, by the failure of the securities, and the loss of the notes by fire. As we have stated elsewhere, the sum for which the town is responsible is

	\$7,501,76
Expended on farm,	7,013,33
Lost,	176,00—7,189,33
	<hr/>
On hand in the treasury,	\$312,43

CHAPTER XVII.

HEALTH—DISEASES—MORTALITY.

Few places, we think, have been more healthful than Middlebury, with few exceptions, through its whole history. At the time of its first settlement, the fevers and chills, which are so common in new countries, prevailed here to a very limited extent, and were scarcely known. There have been occasional epidemics, to which we shall refer. But the general healthfulness of the town is proved, as well by the protracted ages of many of the first settlers, who remained in town, and whose ages we have recorded, as by the bills of mortality. A very destructive epidemic commenced in the fall of 1812, and continued to rage fearfully through the year 1813, and extended into 1814. It was a fever, which commenced and rapidly progressed, with symptoms new to the physicians, and beyond their control. It is commonly designated as the fever of 1813. It was confined principally to persons of adult age, and an unusual number of heads of families were removed by it. The number of deaths, in proportion to the population, was greater than in any other epidemic in Middlebury. In some of the neighboring towns it was still greater. Some have supposed, that the disease originated from the troops, employed in the war, while stationed here or passing through the country. There is however reason to doubt this supposition. There was a recruiting station here, but the number of troops collected here, at any one time, was small, and there were none, so far as we know, in the neighboring towns, where the disease most prevailed. The troops, which passed through were not delayed in this neighborhood. However that may be, the mortality was very great for a few months. Dr. Merrill says, "the deaths in Middlebury, during the months of January, February and March, with a population of about 2300, was forty-seven."

The erysipelatous fever prevailed to a fatal extent in 1826. It was particularly destructive by inducing puerperal fever, which proved fatal in almost every case, and many of the most respectable females were removed by it. Of this epidemic, Dr. Merrill says, "The number of deaths, between January 1st, and April 1st, was thirty-five, nine of them by puerperal fever. Population 3000."

In the fall of 1841, and winter and spring following, the erysipelatous fever again prevailed very extensively, as an epidemic, as the writer of this sketch has painful occasion to recollect. The mortality was large in both these years. According to the record of the late Dr. J. A. Allen, the whole number of deaths from November 8th to May 9th was fifty; of the epidemic 34, of other diseases 16. In several other years, of which we are not able to fix the exact date, the typhus fever has prevailed, so as to increase the average mortality, as has also the dysentery, especially among children. And in some cases, where no particular disease prevailed as an epidemic, the number of deaths from old age and chronic diseases has been above the average. Such was the fact in 1829.

A remarkable mortality, among prominent citizens in the village, occurred in 1855, when no epidemic prevailed. The following six gentlemen died of the diseases mentioned within six months, and the first five within less than four months. Hon. Dorastus Wooster of "Fatty degeneration of the heart," January 11; Hon. Ira Stewart of dropsy in the chest, February 13; Hon. Samuel S. Phelps, of syncope, induced by a prostrated condition of his system, March 25; Rev. Thomas A. Merrill, D. D., of ossification of the valves of the heart, April 29; Jonathan Hagar, Esq., softening of the brain, April 20; Hon. Horace Eaton, of inflammation of the bowels, July 4—all except the last of chronic diseases.

The small pox has several times shown itself here. In January 1802, it prevailed to such extent, that the town meeting, on the first of February, "Voted that the selectmen and civil authority of the town of Middlebury be, and they hereby are, authorized to permit inoculation for the small pox in the town, under such regulations and restrictions as they may judge prudent, and prohibit at their discretion;" and a hospital was accordingly established, remote

from the residences and thoroughfares of the inhabitants. In the spring of 1810, Luke Wheelock, a partner of David Page in the mercantile business, and brother of the late Josephus Wheelock, having occasion to visit Montreal in the prosecution of his business, took the small pox, at that place, of which he died soon after his return. At this time vaccination had been introduced to some extent. But so much alarm prevailed, that some of the citizens, not quite satisfied of the efficacy of that preventive, made application for a town meeting which was held on the 14th of April, and it was "Voted that the selectmen be authorized to allow, at their discretion, persons who have been inoculated for the kind pox, to be inoculated for the small pox, under the direction of experienced physicians, to be licensed by said selectmen, and to license houses for the purpose, if necessary. In the spring of 1820, some cases of small pox occurred, and the patients were removed to a hospital provided for that purpose. Tatnai Prince, a colored man, who had had the small pox, when young, and had been accustomed to attend, as a nurse, upon persons having that disease, was employed to take care of the patients, and from them took the disease and died.

In January 1832, Miss Church, a young lady in the Female Seminary, was attacked with the small pox and died. One or more others died of the disease, and several, who had been exposed, narrowly escaped, by being vaccinated, in season to anticipate the symptoms of the small pox; and some, who had been previously vaccinated, had severe attacks of the varioloid.

Rev. Dr. Merrill, when pastor of the Congregational Church, kept a record of the deaths in town from 1806 to 1842 inclusive, and Dr. Charles L. Allen, a similar record from 1849 to 1859; Dr. Allen, from these, at our request, has furnished us the following estimates of the mortality and diseases during those periods.

Mortality of Middlebury.

RECORDS from 1806 to 1842 inclusive—37 years, by T. A. MERRILL, D. D.

“ “ 1849 “ 1859 “ 10 “ “ C. L. ALLEN, M. D.

—
47 “

Total number of deaths recorded, - - - - - 1660

Annual average, - - - - - 36

Annual per cent. 1 2-10—one death in 83 persons.

Add 25 per cent. as the probable number omitted—

Total number of deaths (probably) - - - - - 2075

Annual average “ - - - - - 44

Annual per cent. 1 47-100—one death in 70 persons.

The most fatal years were—

1813, Spotted Fever. Mortality 3 per cent—one in 33 persons.

1826, Erysipelas. “ 2 35-100 per cent—one in 42 persons.

1842, “ “ 1 9-10 “ — “ 52 “

The least mortality occurred in the years—

1817, mortality 54-100 per cent.—one in 186 persons.

1824, “ 65-100 “ — “ 153 “

The deaths were distributed among the months as follows:

March 173	February 157	October 135	June 104
August 179	January 144	May 121	July 102
September 159	April 135	Nov'r 107	December 100

The ages at death were ascertained in 1573 instances. Of these 560, or 35 66-100 per cent. were of children under five

More females than males died, the ratio being 46 35-100 males to 53 65-100 females.

Only during the last ten years have the causes of death been given sufficiently often to be of practical value.

The epidemic, endemic and contagious diseases, including scarlet fever, dysentery, &c., have carried off about one-fifth of the cases, more than half of these being under five years of age. The constitutional diseases, such as consumption, dropsy, cancer, &c., comprise nearly one-third of the deaths. Consumption alone swept off more than one-fifth of those dying in the last ten years, more than one-half of these being between the ages of fifteen and forty, during the periods of development and early adult life. Of those thus taken away at the commencement of active life, there were more than twice as many males as females.

Not quite four per cent of the deaths were from accidents.

About eight per cent of the deaths were from old age, or the natural decay of the body.*

The remaining deaths were mainly of local origin, such as diseases of the brain and heart, pneumonia, &c. Pneumonia, comprising about seven per cent of the deaths, has been fatal mainly at the two extremes of life, among young children and the aged.

*Between one-fifth and one-quarter of the deaths were of persons over seventy years of age.

CHAPTER XVIII.

BANKS—STATE BANK—BANK OF MIDDLEBURY—SAVINGS BANK.

THE legislature, at their session in Middlebury in 1806, established a State Bank, with two branches, one at Middlebury and the other at Woodstock, and appointed directors for each, although constituting but one board. The directors for this branch were Daniel Chipman, Horatio Seymour and John Willard. Titus Hutchinson, of Woodstock, was chosen President. No capital was furnished to sustain its credit. The business was done on the credit of the state. The pecuniary condition and habits of the people were hardly adapted to the long continuance of a bank on such principles. It was an agricultural country, and too remote from market for readily converting its produce into money, which of course was scarce. The country was in debt, and punctuality was not to be expected from the habits of the people. The traffic was generally conducted, among farmers and mechanics, by an exchange of their respective productions, and the foreign goods were generally paid for in the same articles. These were transported by the merchants to market twice a year, to pay for their goods. Notes were generally made payable in cattle or grain, or other specific articles; and, when payable in money, they were not generally construed according to their tenor, but according to the convenience of the makers, if the patience of the creditor was not sooner exhausted. Notes taken to the bank, for loans, too generally received the same construction. But the legislature, at their next session, established two new branches, at Burlington and Westminster.

Dr. William G. Hooker, whom we have mentioned elsewhere, as an early resident and merchant, was the first cashier of this branch, and continued, for some years, the principal manager of its internal

operations. Being accurate, attentive and courteous in any branch of business in which he engaged, and having made himself acquainted with banking, he afforded efficient and valuable aid in getting the branch into operation, and, for a time, keeping it alive.*

The directors did what they could to supply their vaults with specie, to meet the pressing demands upon them, by exchanging their bills for gold and silver, and by inducing persons wanting accommodations to refund their loans in specie. The legislature also adopted various measures to keep up the credit of the bills and enforce greater punctuality. Among others, to promote the former object, they passed an act at their session in 1809, and others afterwards, making the bills a "lawful tender" in payment of all land taxes. And to promote the latter, at their session in 1810, they passed an act authorizing the cashiers, instead of the regular but slow course of law, forthwith to issue extents on all notes unpaid, and on all bonds given for the liberty of the jail yard, they were to issue "close jail" extents, depriving the debtors and sureties of any further admission to the liberties of the jail. In the same act they limited the amount of loans. But all this did not succeed in keeping the bank alive. The bills would depreciate, and speculators were so uncivil as to buy them up at a discount, and present them for payment. One learned director, who happened to be state's attorney, endeavored to induce the grand jury to indict one of these depredators, for such ungentlemanly conduct, on the principle that the bank was not established for any such purpose, but to accommodate the good people of Vermont, who needed money.

The directors of each branch were made personally responsible for the amount of blank bills signed by the president, and all other property delivered to that branch. In the summer of 1812, the banking house in Middlebury was entered by a false key, and a large amount, in specie and bills in sheets, or filled for circulation, was purloined. The burglary was so adroitly and cautiously committed,

*He was otherwise a respectable and useful citizen, and forward and active in promoting every benevolent object. After he left Middlebury, he resided in New Haven, Conn., where he died, leaving his widow and a daughter and son to mourn his loss.

that little disturbance was made to the internal appearance of the bank, and the door was found locked as usual. The directors however soon discovered that their money had been purloined, but the discovery was not so obvious to others, and they could prove nothing. Daniel Chipman, Horatio Seymour and John Willard were still the directors of this branch, and were called on to account for the missing funds. For the purpose of bringing this claim to a speedy determination, the legislature at their session in 1812, appointed the judges of the Supreme Court commissioners "to determine all controversies between the state and the late or present directors or other officers of the bank," and authorized them to render judgment and issue execution; and in case the debtors were committed to jail, they were not to be allowed the liberties of the yard. Although this law was general in its terms, it was designed to apply particularly to this case. The parties were summoned, and after the trial, the commissioners rendered judgment against the directors of the Middlebury branch for \$28,826.13, and issued execution for the same. The supposed delinquents, not satisfied with this judgment, applied to the legislature, at their session in 1813, to remit it. The legislature, after reciting in the preamble the judgment above mentioned, and farther, that, "whereas it has been made to appear to the satisfaction of the General Assembly that the said judgment ought not to be paid by said directors, excepting the sum of \$1238.84," enacted that the judgment be discharged on the payment of that sum, or the execution of a note for the same.

At the same session, the legislature enacted that, instead of the previous number of directors, only three should be chosen, "so long as it shall be necessary for closing the concerns" of that institution. They also directed the treasurer to burn all the bills in the treasury, being the amount received on taxes. But agents were appointed from time to time, for several years, to collect the debts and dispose of the lands received on debts due the bank.

It may not be out of place to say that the duplicate key, by which the bank was entered, as above stated, was afterwards found in the attic story of a house, crowded in above a rafter.

Soon after the close of the operations of the Vermont State Bank,

applications were made, from different villages, for charters for private banking corporations. The legislature began rather cautiously, at their session in 1818, and incorporated two institutions for banking purposes, one at Burlington and the other at Windsor. Others were added from year to year. The whole number of banks, at the present time, is forty-one, with an aggregate capital of \$4,041,500, ranging from \$50,000 to \$150,000 each.

Among others, the charter of the "President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Middlebury" was granted November 10, 1831, with a capital of \$100,000, divided into 2000 shares, to be managed by seven directors. Only thirty dollars on each share, or \$60,000 was called in. Its existence was limited to fifteen years.

For many years no general system had been established, and the establishment of banks was the subject of perpetual controversy, in the legislature and among the people. Some were opposed to all banks, and others contended for making the individual stockholders liable personally for the debts of the corporation. For some years this became the most agitating political question in the State. At their session in 1840, the legislature passed a general act to govern all the banks, which should be thereafter chartered or rechartered. They did not adopt the principle of making the stockholders responsible, beyond what they had paid in toward the capital. The responsibility was made to rest upon the directors, who alone are at fault, if damages should accrue, from the mismanagement of the bank. A restraint was also placed upon their transactions, and a limit fixed to the amount of individual and aggregate loans, and the directors were subjected to forfeiture if they trespassed beyond those limits. Bonds were to be given by the directors and cashier, to the satisfaction of the commissioner, whose duty it was made to examine their proceedings, and the state of the bank, and make report to the governor. This law was so satisfactory to the public as to quiet all further agitation on the subject.

At the session of the legislature in 1845, the charter of the Bank of Middlebury was renewed for fifteen years more, subject to the general law of 1840. The capital, by that act and by an act passed the following year, was increased to \$75,000 by adding 500

shares to the capital stock, at 30 dollars per share. In 1856 the charter was again renewed until 1875, and 850 shares, at \$30 each added to the capital stock, making the whole capital \$100,500.

During the continuance of the original charter, Gen. William Nash of New Haven, was annually chosen president of the bank, and since that, Paris Fletcher, Esq., has been the president. Joseph Warner, Esq., has been the cashier from the beginning. No bank has been more judiciously and safely managed, or has been subject to fewer losses until recently. The directors were deceived, as every one was, as to the responsibility of the Rutland and Burlington Rail Road Company. They had extended their accommodations to that company to a large amount, for their small capital, and on the assignment of the road, they had so large an amount of the paper of that and two other corporations unpaid, as to swallow the whole of their surplus fund and compel the directors to suspend their dividends for a time; and on the recent re-charter of the bank, they were compelled to provide for the deficiency, which still remained of the capital stock, to the amount of five thousand dollars, by an assessment on the old shares. The bank, for the first fifteen years, was kept in the rooms at the north end of the hotel building. Since that the directors have purchased the building adjoining it on the north, and fitted it up in a handsome and convenient style, with a very substantial vault for the safe keeping of the money and books.

“The Middlebury Savings Bank” was incorporated November 12, 1836. It was immediately organized by electing the requisite officers, and went into operation. The business was judiciously and successfully prosecuted, and it became a very useful institution, for persons having small and increasing funds, to invest. But, within the last few years, the same agency, which has spread its destructive influence over other banks, and over many individuals, has sent, at least a temporary ruin into this institution. The treasurer had invested a considerable amount of the deposits in the preferred stock and bonds of the Rutland and Burlington Rail Road Company; through the failure of which the savings bank has become insolvent. Its concerns are now in the hands of a receiver, appointed by the Court of Chancery.

CHAPTER XIX.

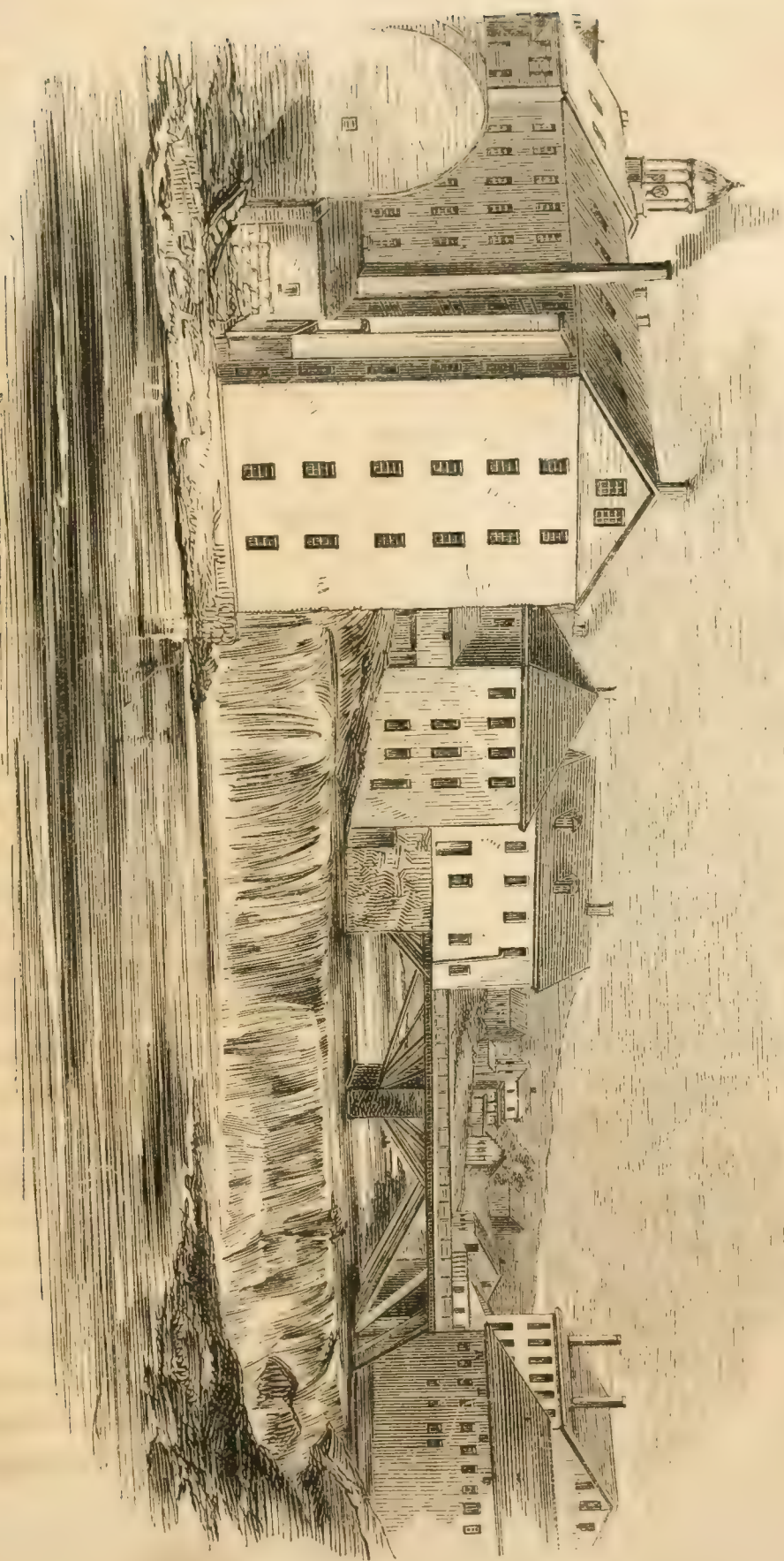
MANUFACTURES—FORGE AND GUN FACTORY—COTTON FACTORY—
GRIST MILL—WARREN'S FACTORY—MID. MAN. COMPANY—MAR-
BLE MILL—FIRES—D. NICHOLS.

WE have already incidentally alluded to some of the manufactures, and we here notice others more particularly.

The forge, which we have mentioned, as established by Jonathan Nichols, falling soon into other hands, was not long kept in operation. While the manufacture of iron was carried on in it, the ore was obtained in part from Monkton, but principally from Crown Point, west of the lake. The gun factory was established chiefly to manufacture guns for the government. Nichols and the owners, who succeeded him, had a contract for the manufacture of one thousand, which were finished, and inspected by Major Orr of the army, and received by the government in 1802. Mr. Elias Hall, who had been employed in the works, continued, on a small scale, the manufacture and repair of guns for several years afterwards.

While Josiah Nichols, mentioned elsewhere, was employed in the trip hammer shop, in company with Daniel Pettibone and Ezekiel Chapman, in the year 1799 or 1800, they discovered a process for welding cast steel, an operation which, although of great importance, it is said, was not previously understood in the country. In 1802, a patent was taken out in their names. Nichols, we believe, never obtained any income from the patent, but one or both the others, who removed to other parts of the country, used it and probably sold it to others; and it is now in general use in the country.

In the spring of 1806, Lavius Fillmore, an experienced architect, came to this village, under a contract for erecting the Congre-



MIDDLEBURY FALLS.



gational church. In February following, David Page, Jun, from Jaffry, New Hampshire, established himself here in the mercantile business. At the last mentioned date, Page and Fillmore purchased of Judge Painter his mills and water power, on the east side of the falls. Soon after, Mr. Fillmore removed the old mills, and made preparation for erecting a flouring and grist mill, on a larger and more permanent scale. The result was the completion of the stone mill and store rooms recently burnt.

As early as 1811, Mr. Page commenced the erection of the stone cotton factory, on the grounds north of the mill. The obstructions to the commerce of the country, during the European wars, by the decrees of the French emperor, and the orders in council of the British government, and the action of our own government in their defence, had directed the attention of the enterprising people of this country to the establishment of manufactories of our own. But the machinery for manufacturing cotton in this country was very imperfect and not easily obtained. Mr. Page set up such machinery as he could obtain, started his works on a small scale, and manufactured some cloth before the close of the war, which he sold for fifty cents a yard, and which might now sell for six or eight cents.

Mr. John Houghton, from New Ipswich N. H., who had been employed in erecting machinery in the cotton mills in that place, was first employed for that purpose in this factory. In the year 1817, Mr. Joseph Gordon, who had been employed in the manufacture of machinery, and had set up several factories in Scotland, and is still living in this place, with his daughter, principal of the Female Seminary, immigrated to this country and brought with him drawings of machinery used there. Mr. Gordon built for Mr. Page twenty power looms at that time. These, Mr. Gordon informs us, were the first power looms ever built in the United States, except six in Rhode Island, which were built by a Scotchman, who came to this country the year before. Isaac Markham, an ingenious young mechanic, who had worked under Houghton, was set to work and manufactured the iron part of the machinery. He died, after establishing a distinguished reputation as a machinist, in 1825, at the early age of thirty.

After these works were completed, Page and Fillmore divided their property, Fillmore taking the mill and Page the factory. During the war, and subsequently, while large crops of wheat were raised in the country, the manufacture of flour was prosecuted with great success and profit.

In the year 1821, Professor Frederic Hall published a "Statistical Account of the Town of Middlebury," from which we propose to quote largely, as we can thus more easily obtain the facts correctly, than from any other source. "The first," he says, "is a grist mill, owned by Nathan Wood & Co. It is of stone, and the form of its base is that of an L. Its length on the side next to the water is forty-five feet, on the east side seventy-six, on the street forty-five, and it contains five sets of stones, with screens and apparatus, moving with sufficient power to manufacture into flour eighty thousand bushels of grain annually. The situation of this mill is singular: and the plan, in part new, was formed by an ingenious architect, Mr. Lavius Fillmore, to whom I am indebted for the following particulars relating to it. It stands on a solid rock, projecting into the creek about thirty feet up stream from the falls. After leveling the rock sufficiently for the foundation of the building, a vault was cut in it, 43 feet long, 25 feet deep and 18 feet wide, which brought it nearly even with the surface of the water, at the foot of the cataract. Then an inlet was formed, 26 feet in length, through the solid rock, from the bed of the stream to the vault, through which water, in sufficient quantity to carry all the stones and other machinery, flows into a flume, 43 feet long, six wide and eighteen deep, fortified by solid rock, on all sides, except one, where the water, in the ordinary manner, is thrown into six tub wheels, built on an improved construction, and placed in the bottom of the vault." The water is discharged "through a subterranean outlet" into the creek below the falls. The mill cannot be endangered by the highest floods. "The inlet and outlet of the floom, being formed in solid rock, is subject to no decay, and the wheels are entirely secured from the frost.

Mr. Hall says of the cotton factory: "The next establishment is a large cotton manufactory, erected by Major David Page, who has

politely furnished me with a description of it. It is constructed of grey and white lime stone or marble, and its walls are thick and very substantial. It is one hundred and fifty feet in length, thirty-seven feet wide, six stories high at one end, and three at the other. The present proprietor, Mr. Joseph Hough, informs me that the building contains at this time (December, 1820,) eight hundred and forty spindles for cotton, fifteen power looms, together with two woolen carding machines. The spindles produce a sufficient quantity of yarn daily for five hundred yards of sheeting." This factory, not long afterwards, became the property of the late Benjamin Marshall, of Troy, N. Y., a large manufacturer, who by his will conveyed it to Mrs. Julia Carville, wife of Mr. Charles Carville, of New York, who now has the title. Mr. Marshall added a large quantity of machinery, and among others, increased the number of looms to about one hundred. It has since been managed by different persons, as agents or lessees. In 1849, Mr. H. W. Pitts, an experienced manufacturer, took a lease of it, and has since carried it on prudently and judiciously and with success and profit to himself. It has exchanged much of the old, for new and improved machinery. He still has one hundred looms, but has only sixty in running order. He manufactures daily sixteen hundred yards of heavy sheeting, and from one to eight hundred pounds of yarn, according to circumstances.

The mill, after the time mentioned by Mr. Hall, became the property of Aaron and Timothy Hall, of Keene, N. H., both of whom died and it was carried on by different persons under them and their administrators, until the 16th of September, 1854, when it was destroyed by fire, together with the store in front, occupied by Nathan Wood, and the brick store of Gen. Nash adjoining, occupied by W. S. Lane for a clothing and furnishing store, and the shop attached, occupied by L. Bertrand as a tailor. In the fall of 1855, the site and privileges of the mill, with its partially standing walls, were purchased by Mr. H. W. Pitts and Mr. Harmon Sheldon, who have rebuilt it and set it in operation, with four runs of stones and improved machinery, which is capable of manufacturing one hundred barrels of flour daily.

We quote again from Professor Hall. On the opposite side of

the river is another cotton manufactory, owned by Mr. John Warren, who communicated the following facts. The building is of stone, fifty-eight feet in length, thirty-two in width, and forty in height, containing six hundred spindles, with all the necessary apparatus. They yield yarn enough daily for two hundred yards of sheeting. Adjoining this is a stone building in which are eight power looms, weaving, on an average, one thousand yards of cloth a week. Under the same roof is a double fulling mill, or two stocks on one wheel, which for twenty years past has fulled twelve thousand yards annually, also a double carding machine, which cards from six to twelve thousand pounds of wool in a year."

This is the factory into which John Warren converted his grist mill, about the year 1813. He enlarged the building, and among others erected, at the north end a stone building, mentioned by Mr. Hall as containing his looms, and a wooden building over the shed at the south end, which was occupied as a tenement for his employees. In the summer of 1825, this whole establishment was consumed by fire. It was rebuilt by Mr. Warren, Stephen Hinsdill of Bennington furnishing a portion of the machinery. In 1835 the whole establishment became the property of Hinsdill, and he put in the requisite machinery, and converted it into a manufactory of satinets. In February, 1836, the factory took fire again, and the roof and upper part of the building, to the floor of the second story, and the wooden building at the south end, were consumed. Not far from the same time, the stone building at the north end tumbled down, for want of a substantial foundation. The damage done by the fire was soon after repaired.

In November, 1835, the "Middlebury Manufacturing Company" was incorporated by the legislature, "for manufacturing cotton and woolen goods," with a capital of \$200,000. In the summer following, sufficient stock was subscribed and the company organized. In the fall of that year, the company purchased of Hinsdill his factory, added new machinery, purchased a large quantity of wool, and prosecuted, with all their means, the manufacture of satinets; intending, in the spring, to enlarge their establishment for the manufacture of woolen goods. As there was no means of transporting

their goods to market in the winter, a very large quantity had accumulated by the spring of 1837. By the time the goods could be conveyed to market in that fatal spring, there was no market to be found for them. Many of them were sold at half their cost, and the sacrifice was so great and the market continued so much depressed, that the stockholders were discouraged from further prosecuting the business. The corporation still own the works, and have since purchased the works formerly owned by Capt. Moses Leonard and his son-in-law, Andrew Ratherford. The grist mill in the basement, and the saw mill west of it, continued in operation, but the factory remained idle until 1840. At this time, Mr. Jason Davenport and Mr. Oliver P. Turner, two young practical manufacturers, took a lease of the factory, and part of the machinery, and prosecuted the manufacture of woollen goods, with great success and profit. Turner died in 1847, and the business was continued by Davenport and Charles D. Nash, and by the latter until 1851. The factory remained idle again until 1854, when it was leased to Mr. Davenport and Valentine V. Clay, as partners, who are still successfully prosecuting the business.

We quote again from Professor Hall. "Proceeding down the creek, on the western side, after passing two saw mills, two grist mills, a clothier's works and some other establishments of minor importance, you come to the Marble Factory. The marble in this village, which is now wrought on a large scale, and extensively diffused over the country, was discovered by Eben W. Judd, the present principal proprietor, as early as the year 1802. A building on a limited plan was erected, and machinery for sawing the marble (the idea of which had its origin in the inventive mind of the proprietor) was then first put in operation. In 1806, a new and commodious building, two stories high, and destined to comprise sixty saws, to be moved by water, was erected. In 1808, this enlarged establishment went into operation, and has continued to the present day."

"The saws are made of soft iron, without teeth, and are similar in form to those, which are used in sawing marble by hand, in the large cities in Europe. The softer they are the longer they last." "The marble until lately has been obtained chiefly from a quarry,

situated within a few feet of the mill. During three or four of the last years, much has been procured, at the time of low water, at the bottom of the creek, immediately above the falls. It is raised from its bed, partly by means of wedges, but principally by blasting." "The marble, after being sawed into slabs, is manufactured into tomb stones, currier's tables, jambs, mantle pieces, hearths, window and door caps and sills, side boards, tables, sinks and various other kinds of furniture. These articles are transported to Montreal, Quebec, Boston, New York and even Georgia.—The machinery has sawn annually, from five to ten thousand feet since the year 1808."

This was the first manufacture of marble upon an extensive scale established in this state, and the machinery for sawing on this plan was first put in operation by Dr. Judd,* and has since been exten-

*There is no doubt, we think that Dr. Judd was the first to put in operation the machinery for sawing marble by water on this plan, now so extensively used through the country: and it is the general understanding that he invented the machinery. But it is now said that Isaac Markham, who was afterwards known as a very ingenious mechanic, and then only ten years of age, first conceived the plan, and exhibited a model to Dr. Judd, who built his first experimental factory for the purpose of trying it. This is now understood to be the fact by the family connections of Markham, and his mother, who was an observing and intelligent woman, often so stated in her life time. And it is thought, that was the reason Dr. Judd did not then take out a patent for the invention. In 1822, he obtained a patent for machinery, which he invented for raising and lowering the saws, as required in their operation. It is stated also on the same authority, that about the same time, two men were engaged secretly in contriving and building a picking machine. No persons were admitted to a sight of the machine, lest the secret should be discovered, before a patent was obtained. But Isaac, being a boy, was admitted without suspicion. When he went home he said he could contrive a better machine, and, with such tools and materials as he had, formed a model, which, it is said, was adopted by the men, instead of their own. Dr. William McLeod, of Poultney, a son of Mrs. McLeod, mentioned elsewhere, and a nephew of Isaac Markham, in a letter to his brother Thomas H. McLeod of this place, dated March 11, 1859, says—"In the year 1806 or 1807, when I first came to Middlebury, or shortly after, while uncle Isaac Markham was living at his father's house, I frequently saw a model of what was called a stone saw mill, in a room he occupied as a shop. I also very well recollect of hearing the subject conversed upon in the family, and I feel confident by others also, for some time after, in reference to the machine or its principle having been taken or borrowed from his model and applied to a factory erected by Mr. Judd for sawing marble." "I recollect hearing the subject of the invention of the picking machine conversed about at the time referred to." "On another oc-

sively adopted elsewhere. He was an ingenious and somewhat scientific man, and having been committed to the liberties of the jail here, on a judgment of the United States court, he set himself to contrive some mode of employing his faculties, and obtaining the means of subsistence. In anticipation of establishing the manufacture of marble, in the spring of 1803, he obtained from Appleton Foot a lease for 999 years of the right to dig marble on any part of his lot, between his house and the creek, the foundation of which was marble throughout, and the privilege of erecting a mill. He afterwards obtained a title to the land in fee, and occupied the house on it, until he built, on the same site, the large brick house, now owned by Dr. Nathaniel Harris.

Dr. Dwight, on his visit in 1810, says of this marble and its manufacture, "A quarry of marble has been discovered in the bank of the river just below the bridge, a continuation of the ledge, which forms the falls. It is both white and dove-colored, elegantly variegated, and of finer texture than any other, which has been wrought hitherto in the United States. It is sawn, ground and polished by water machinery; and is cut and carved, with an elegance not surpassed on this side of the Atlantic."

After Professor Hall's account above quoted, Dr. Judd purchased the quarry of beautiful block marble, on the lake shore in Shoreham, which he transported by teams and extensively manufactured at his mill here. In the year 1820, he received into partnership his son-in-law, Lebbeus Harris, son of Lebbeus Harris, Senior. By them the business was largely prosecuted, and agencies for the sale established in some of the large cities, and in Western New York. In 1837, the whole establishment was brought to a close by the death of both the partners. Mr. Harris died in April, at the age of forty-five, and Dr. Judd, in September, at the age of seventy-six. The mill has never been in operation since. Dr. Nathaniel Harris, a brother of Lebbeus, who had also been engaged in the

occasion, when uncle was employed in Waltham, Mass., he, in showing me the machinery of the factory, referred to the picker, and remarked to me, that he was the inventor, and also referred to his being the inventor of the machine for sawing marble."

business in various ways, continued the manufacture on a small scale for a few years, but has now, for many years been in the practice of dentistry. Mr. Daniel Judd, son of Dr. Judd, still prosecutes the business on a small scale in a shop near the former factory.

At an early day, Rufus Wainwright and Jonathan Wainwright, Jun., sons of Jonathan Wainwright, Esq., of Salisbury, established themselves in the tin and iron business, on a small scale, and having enterprise and energy, they enlarged their business from time to time. Not long after the close of the war of 1812, they erected a furnace below the mills, built by Appleton Foot, on the site of the former forge, for casting stoves and other articles. They purchased the store now occupied by Mr. Davenport, for their place of business, and greatly enlarged it, as their business increased. In the summer of 1826, their furnace was consumed by fire, with the neighboring grist mill and trip hammer shop. They then purchased the water power on the east side of the paper mill falls, and erected there a new furnace and machine shop on an extensive scale. Their principal business was the manufacture of stoves, which then went into all parts of the state and into Canada, where they had agencies for the sale of them. Rufus Wainwright, some years before his death, withdrew from the concern, and devoted himself to his farm, and by his labor and counsel, and liberal contribution from his large estate, to the promotion of every important interest: our literary and religious institutions and every important enterprise exhibit the effects of his large liberality.

The business was continued by Jonathan Wainwright until his death. In the meantime, after the death of Judge Painter, they purchased his beautiful residence, together with a part of his lands. Rufus occupied this house with his family until his death, and fitted it up in an improved style. They also built, for a residence for Jonathan, the large brick house, now owned by Hon. Joseph Warner. In this his family resided until his death. In their business they were not only enterprising and judicious, in all their transactions, but liberal with their employees and others with whom they dealt. Jonathan Wainwright died in September 1845, aged fifty-nine, and Rufus in March 1853, at the age of sixty-seven.



Engraved by J. H. Smith

Rufus Wainwright



After the death of Jonathan Wainwright, Jason Davenport purchased the furnace and machine shop, and the store which had been the place of business of the partners, as well as of Jonathan, and became their successors in the iron and tin business, which he still prosecutes. His stove business is principally confined to sales at home, but his other business has been greatly extended, so as to embrace every department of iron, hardware and agricultural tools.

In the fall of 1851, Mr. N. H. Hand established a pail factory, and for that purpose purchased the building erected by Dr. Judd for his marble factory. In this he has established an extensive manufacture, not only of pails, but of butter tubs, keelers and other articles in that department. The timber which he uses is sapling pines and white cedar. His works, when in full operation, are capable of manufacturing six hundred pails daily. He has added recently a mulay saw mill, on a new and ingenious plan, which he thinks will saw double the quantity of lumber sawed by common mills.*

In addition to the fires, already mentioned, which have destroyed factories and mills in this neighborhood, we notice one or two more, which completed the entire destruction of all the buildings originally erected there. At an early period of the present century,—the exact date we have not ascertained,—the forge and gun factory were consumed. In March, 1831, at midnight, a fire broke out at the south end of the bridge, which consumed the saw mill, then owned by Daniel Henshaw, the building built by him on the lower side of the bridge, in which Gen. H. Warren and Timothy Harris had a dry goods and grocery store, Jared W. Copeland his printing office, and John Vallett his shoe shop, and on the opposite side of the bridge, the building erected by Joshua Henshaw, and then owned by David Nichols,† in which Mr. Nichols had his leather store, and Ephraim R. Smith his dry goods and grocery store, and a part of which was occupied as a tenement.

*Since the above was written, the establishment has fallen into the hands of J. M. Slade & Co.

†Mr. David Nichols, mentioned above, was a tanner and currier, on an extensive scale. He owned a small dwelling house in which he resided, and a tannery on

CHAPTER XX.

PRINTING—NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER PERIODICALS—BOOKS—POST OFFICE AND MAILS.

THE first printing office was established in Middlebury by Joseph D. Huntington and John Fitch, young men from Windham, Conn., in 1801. They commenced the publication of the *Middlebury Mercury*, the first newspaper, on the 16th day of December of that year. Their business was commenced in the building at the south end of the bridge, where Nichols' brick building now stands, and was afterwards, in February, 1804, removed to the building erected by Jabez Rogers for a dwelling house, which was removed for the rail road track. In 1806 the partnership was dissolved, and the business was continued by Huntington, and the *Mercury* was published by him until 1810. To their establishment was soon added the business of book binding. They also kept for sale at their office a few books, such as were more generally needed in the country; especially school books, blank books and almanacs. In the fall of 1802, Huntington and Fitch published the first *Vermont Register*, and the publication was continued by them and by Huntington until 1810. They published numerous pamphlets, and a few other books, and among them the "*Law Magazine*," by John Simmons, Esq., in 1804, the first book of forms published in the state, and "*Discourses on Religious subjects*, by the late Rev. Job Jwift, D. D., to which are prefixed sketches of his life and character," in 1805.

Weybridge Street. He had purchased the building above mentioned for his leather store. After its destruction, he built the large brick building, which bears his name, on the same ground. He also, a few years before his death, built the large dwelling house on Weybridge street, now occupied by Professor Boardman. Having occasion to visit New York at a time when the Asiatic Cholera prevailed there, he was seized with that disease on his return home, and died in October, 1842, in the sixty-third year of his age.

Since 1812, Weekly Newspapers have been published, without interruption, and frequently two and some times three, and occasionally other periodicals. But the changes of the names and publishers have been too frequent to authorize a detailed history of them. We therefore take the liberty to copy from Dr. Merrill's account the following table with the addition of such as have been since published.

NAMES.	PUBLISHER.	FREQUENCY.	COMMENCED.	TERMINATED.
Middlebury Mercury.	Huntington & Fitch,	Weekly,	Dec. 16, 1801.	June 27, 1810
Vermont Mirror.	S. Swift : T. C. Strong,	"	Sep. 30, 1812.	Sept. 11, 13
Columbian Patriot :	N. H. Wright : W. Slade :	"	Sept. 1, 13.	Mar. 21, 31
National Standard,	Copeland & Allen,	"		
Christian Herald :	T. C. Strong :	"	Sept. 25,	16. Nov. 23,
Christian Messenger,	F. Burnap,	"	Apr. 8,	20. Sept. 30,
Religious Reporter,	Copeland & Allen,	"	Apr. 16,	25. Sept. 1,
Vermont American,	Ovid Miner,	"		
Antimasonic Repub :	E. D. Barber :	"	Oct. 23,	19. Oct. 2,
Midd. Free Press,	E. R. Jewett,	"		
Northern Argus :	C. C. Waller : E. H. Washburn :	}		
Vermont Argus :	H. & E. W. Drury : Goodale & Cobb :			
Argus & Free Press,	Barber & Russell : J. M. Stearns,		Oct. 2,	31.
The American :	H. H. Houghton : O. Seymour :	}		
People's Press,	J. P. Wheeler : E. Maxham,		Nov. 15,	31.
Vt. Farmer, & S. G.	E. Maxham,		semi mo. Oct.	30. Oct. 40
The Adviser,	Gen. Convention of Vermont,	}	monthly Jan.	09 Dec. 15
The Repository,	An Association,		occass'y. April	12 May 17
Episcopal Register,	Rev. B. B. Smith,		monthly Jan.	26. Dec. 29
Vt. Stock Journal,	D. C. Linsley,		monthly Jan.	57 moved to N. Y.

The colons (:) in the above table, indicate a change in the publishers and names of the papers. Only six numbers of the Chris-

tian Herald were published, when the name was altered to Christian Messenger. The Argus and Free Press were continued, when the table was published in 1841, but was discontinued not long after. The People's Press, in the spring of 1841, was purchased by H. Bell Esq., who commenced the publication on the 11th of May of that year, and the paper was continued in his name until April 1849, some months after his death. The name was changed in November 1843 to the Northern Galaxy, and in January 1848 to Middlebury Galaxy. J. H. Barrett and Justus Cobb, Esqrs., had contracted for the purchase of the establishment previous to Mr. Bell's death, and commenced the publication in their names at the close of the year, in April 1849. They continued the publication until Mr. Barrett withdrew from it in April 1856. The following year it was published by Cobb and Fuller, and has since been published by Justus Cobb and Rufus Mead.* The name was changed in January 1850 to Middlebury Register, which is still retained. The office has been recently removed to the new building, erected by Mr. Cobb, at the north end of the bridge.

The following table of original books published here we copy also from Dr. Merrill's history.

NAMES.	AUTHORS.	PAGES.	VOL.	SIZE,	YEAR.
Vermont State Papers,	William Slade,	568	1	8 vo.	1823
Fall of Palmyra,	N. H. Wright,	143	1	24 mo.	17
Remarkable Events,	Leonard Deming,	324	1	12 mo.	25
Christian Instructor,	Josiah Hopkins,	312	1	12 mo.	25
Youth's Ethereal Instructor,	Uzziah C. Burnap,	72	1	8 vo.	22
The Christian Instructor Instructed,	Noah Levings,	237	1	12 mo.	27
Essay on Contracts,	Daniel Chipman,	224	1	8 vo.	22
Vermont Reports,	Daniel Chipman,	640	2	8 vo.	24
Vermont Reports,	Supreme Court,	2306	4	8 vo.	37

The following have since been published: Life of Hon. Nathaniel Chipman, LL. D., by his brother Daniel Chipman, 1846. Memoir of Seth Warner, by Daniel Chipman, L. W. Clark, Publisher 1848. Memoir of Thomas Chittenden, and History of the Constitution, by Daniel Chipman, 1849. Catalogues of the Principal

* Rescinded—April 1852.—Mr Cobb has sold his interest in the establishment to William J. Fuller, and it is now conducted by Mead and Fuller as partners.

Officers of Vermont, 1778 to 1851, by Leonard Deming. Catalogue of the Graduates of Middlebury College, embracing a Biographical Register and Directory, by Thomas Scott Pearson, A. B. Several Pamphlets have also been published.

Previous to the year 1810, a limited assortment of books had been kept by printers, different merchants and by Olcott White a book binder. In that year the writer of this sketch, believing the interest of the community required a more ready access to useful books for general reading, established a bookstore with a more general assortment: and about the year 1813, Hon. William Slade established another. Several religious and other books were published by each of these establishments. Jonathan Hagar, Esq., succeeded and for many years continued an extensive bookstore establishment. Not long before his death in 1855, he relinquished the business: and Lucius W. Clark, who had previously opened a bookstore, continued it until his death in 1852. It was afterwards continued by his son Lucius Clark, and is now kept by Solomon Parker, in what is called Allen's Block. In the meantime Albert H. Copeland has, within a few years, opened an establishment for the sale of the periodical literature of the day,—newspapers and magazines,—with a general assortment of new publications and stationery, which has increased to an extensive establishment, and has lately been removed to Brewster's Block.

POST OFFICE AND MAILS, IN THE VILLAGE.

From a communication from the General Post Office, obtained at our request by Mr. H. L. Sheldon, it appears that the post office was first established in this place in July 1793, and that Robert Huston was appointed the first postmaster. The first three books in the post office department, having been burnt, in the destruction of the building belonging to that department, the exact date of the appointment of postmasters cannot be ascertained, but are sufficiently learned by the accounts in the auditor's office. The following is the list of appointments, as furnished by the department.

" Post Office at Middlebury established in the month of July,	1793
Robert Huston appointed postmaster	do 1792

Samuel Post	appointed postmaster	June	1797
Horatio Seymour	do	December	1800
George Cleveland	do	October	1809
Calvin C. Waller	do	14 May	1829
Erastus W. Drury	do	31 December	1836
Charles Bowen	do	5 March	1842
Edward D. Barber	do	16 May	1845
Emerson R. Wright	do	9 October	1849
Asa Chapman	do	3 May	1849
Emerson R. Wright	do	29 July	1853
William P. Russel	do	29 May	1857

We regret that we have not obtained the dates of the changes, in the frequency of the mails and the income of the office, from time to time, that we might the better ascertain the progress of the business in this department from its small beginnings. The office when first established was kept a mile from the village, and the mail was not probably received oftener than once in two weeks. The population, then scattered over the whole town, could not have been over five hundred; there was little business which required the use of the mail for its transaction; the newspapers, which penetrated into the wilderness were few and the whole mail matter was small. Now crowds besiege the post office on the arrival of the mail every day, impatient for its distribution.

In the fall of 1793, the year in which the post office was established in Middlebury, the legislature passed an act, granting to Nathan Bellows of Poultney, "and his heirs" and assigns the sole and exclusive right and privilege of running a stage or stages on the route from Rutland to Burlington," "for and during the term of ten years." "After the expiration of two years from the passing" of the act, he was required "to run his stage from Rutland to Burlington and back again to Rutland in every two weeks for the term of four years," and after the expiration of six years, during the remainder of the term, he was required to perform the service every week, and he had the "liberty to suspend the running of the stage eight weeks in every spring and four weeks in every fall" during his whole term.

Mr. Bellows had probably, at the time, the contract for carrying the mail on this route, and the act was probably passed with refer-

erence to the then present and prospective arrangement for carrying the mail, as well as to the condition of the roads, and the travel on them. For the first four years, we suppose, the mail was carried through the route once in two weeks, and for the last six years to 1803 once a week. When the stage did not run, the mail was carried on horse back. In the fall of 1801, when the writer first came to Middlebury, and some time after, a two horse waggon for a stage was run by Mr. Wheelock of Rutland, who also carried the mail, once a week, starting from Rutland, on Monday morning, and reaching Middlebury the same day; Tuesday it reached Burlington, Wednesday St. Albans, and the three following days returned to Rutland. Afterwards the mail was carried twice and then thrice a week, and now for many years daily.

POST OFFICE IN EAST MIDDLEBURY.

The post office in East Middlebury, was established January 29, 1834: and the following is a list of the postmasters since that time, with the dates when they entered on the duties of their office.

Timothy Mathews, Jun.,	January	29	1834
Levi Needham	November	21	1837
Orleans P. Torrance	April	1	1846
Levi Needham	January	21	1850
Royal D. Farr	July	5	1854

CHAPTER XXI.

PROFESSIONAL MEN—LAWYERS—PHYSICIANS.

IN the course of our history, we have had occasion to mention several of our professional men. We here add short notices of others, who have been or are in the practice of law in town.

BEAUMONT PARKS Esq. was admitted to the bar in 1811, continued in the practice some years, and removed to Indiana, where he was employed in teaching.

ROBERT B. BATES Esq., originally from Connecticut, had been in practice a short time in the State of Delaware, and was admitted here in June 1813. He was in the practice here fifteen or twenty years. During that time he was elected a representative of the town six years, three of which he was Speaker of the House of Representatives. He afterwards removed to Albany and thence to New York, where he died a short time after. Mr. Bates was a man of talents and vivid imagination; and of considerable attainments in literature as well as in law. He was also an eloquent and popular advocate; and in short was like a splendid, but short lived meteor.

Rev. JOEL H. LINSLEY D. D., son of Hon. Joel Linsley of Cornwall, and brother of Charles Linsley Esq., was licensed as a lawyer in December 1815. He commenced practice as a partner of Hon. Peter Starr. But after a few years, he thought it his duty to leave the profession for the ministry. He was successively settled as a pastor in Hartford Conn. and in Boston; for several years afterwards he was president of Marietta College in Ohio, and for the last few years has been settled as a pastor in Greenwich Conn.

Hon. DORASTUS WOOSTER, son of Moses Wooster of Cornwall, was licensed in December 1816. He pursued the study of law in

the office of Judge Doolittle. He opened an office and continued his practice more or less until the time of his death. His practice was interrupted for some time by his appointment as Judge of the County Court. Under the old judiciary system he was appointed chief Judge in 1824, and assistant Judge from 1825 to 1831, and from 1844 to 1846. He was also assistant Judge at the time of his death, having been elected the fall previous. He was also a member of the State Senate in 1840 and 1841. He died suddenly in January 1855, in his sixty-eighth year.

Hon. GEORGE CHIPMAN, son of Hon. Daniel Chipman, was admitted to the bar in June 1821. He commenced practice as junior partner of his father, and continued in practice here twelve or fifteen years, and during the time held the appointment of State's Attorney from 1827 to 1830 inclusive. Business of a different character called him to Canada, where he resided several years. After his return from Canada, he resided a few years in Ripton, and during the time was assistant Judge of the County Court from 1846 to 1849. He has since been employed in the State Department in Washington, until recently he has been removed, and has resumed the practice of law in that place.

CHARLES LINSLEY Esq., brother of Joel H. Linsley mentioned above, was licensed in Franklin County in 1823, and immediately established himself in the practice in this village. He has continued the practice, as counsellor and advocate, here and in the neighboring counties until the present time. He has recently opened an office in Rutland and removed his family there, but has not relinquished his business in this county. His practice was partially interrupted by being engaged six or seven years as a director and solicitor of the Rutland and Burlington Railroad Company, and as railroad commissioner under the act of 1855, for two years.

EDWARD D. BARBER Esq. was graduated at Middlebury College in 1829. He had interested himself in politics before he left college. Immediately after, he became the editor of the Antimasonic Republican, which was started through his influence, and he continued its editor until 1832. From 1832 to 1836 he was editor of the Middlebury Free Press. While having charge of these papers, he

prosecuted, as his engagements would permit, the study of the law. He was licensed in June, 1834. In 1831, he was appointed secretary to the Governor and Council; in 1832 and 1833, he represented the town in the House of Representatives, and officiated as clerk of that body in 1834. He remained an active politician through life, and was always an ardent advocate of reform and every measure which he thought adapted to ameliorate the evils of society. He was frequently called on to deliver orations and address public assemblies, and was successful in such efforts. But his party being generally in the minority, his political influence and distinction did not increase according to the promise of his early political precocity. His talents and scholarship were much above the ordinary rank. For a man as fond as he was of stirring out door service, he attained a good knowledge of the law, and was a successful advocate. The property of the Glassfactory Company, at Lake Dunmore, having fallen into his hands, he wished to convert it to some productive use, and procured the incorporation of a Hotel Company, which erected, principally under his direction, the splendid establishment there, for the accommodation of summer visitors, and winter parties. He was there temporarily with his family, when he was taken sick and died on the 23d day of August 1855, at the age of forty-nine.

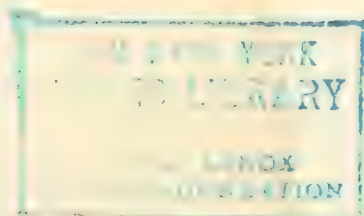
PHILIP BATTELL Esq., son-in-law of Hon. Horatio Seymour, who had been for some time in the practice of law in Cleveland, Ohio, returned with his wife in declining health to Middlebury, and was admitted to the bar in this county in December 1839. But he chose to devote himself to literary pursuits and the education of his children, and did not engage in the practice of his profession. He was graduated at Middlebury College in the class of 1826.

JULIUS AUGUSTUS BECKWITH, a son of Zechariah and Julia (Smith) Beckwith, was born at Monkton in this county, where his father then resided, on the 10th day of February 1821. In May 1827, the family removed to Middlebury, and have since resided in this village. The subject of this notice was graduated at Middlebury College in 1840. He was a good scholar and excelled especially in literature, and bore a prominent and honorable part in the public exercises of his class, at the time of their graduation. He



Engraved by F. S. [illegible]

J. A. Buckwith



pursued his professional studies in the office of Hon. Horatio Seymour, and was admitted to the bar in 1843. He commenced and for a few years continued the practice as a partner of Charles Linsley Esq., and has since continued it alone. His practice was always extensive and increasing, and he left numerous clients to mourn his decease. He was laborious in the discharge of his professional duties, punctual in all his engagements, diligent as a student, and made himself thoroughly acquainted with the points and law of the cases, in which he was employed. He excelled especially as an advocate from the commencement of his career. He was a ready and popular speaker, his style was classical and his arguments well arranged, clear and forcible. He was elected a member of the House of Representatives in the year 1854 and 1855; and his prospects were prominent for still further advancement, in public life, when arrested in his career.

Mr. Beckwith was also distinguished as a citizen, companion and friend. Full of life and animation himself, he imparted animation and good feeling to all circles in which he moved. He made himself particularly interesting to all young persons, who came in contact with him. Always companionable, he drew to himself many warm and attached friends. He devoted much attention to literature, and possessed, for a professional man, more than ordinary literary attainments.

Mr. Beckwith, when about fourteen years of age, had deep religious impressions; and his friends entertained strong confidence that he was a christian. When, in the midst of his classical and professional studies and rivalships, he looked forward to the scenes, which were before him, and in which he was to bear a part, his ardent temperament and hopeful disposition invested the wide world and its pursuits with a bright and cheerful coloring, and inspired him with an ardor and ambition, which, for a time, took the place of his religious impressions. He was not chargeable with immorality, and he was ever a friend and supporter of the institutions of religion, in the church and society, with which his associations more immediately connected him. But otherwise he appeared to the world regardless of the higher claims of religion, and, with his con-

stitutional ardor and undivided devotion, he engaged in the business of his profession, and in the amusements and gaieties of life.

But two or three years before his death, he was brought to a more serious consideration of the subject of religion, as he afterwards stated, and felt deep sorrow for his neglect of its claims, and especially for his ingratitude to his Savior, who, he thought, had followed him in all his wayward course. It was his intention then to show himself more decidedly and publicly on the side of religion, by uniting with the church. But the pressure of his professional duties, for which he afterwards expressed regret, delayed the execution of his purpose. When he was first attacked with the disease of which he died, and some months before its termination, and when others had no apprehension of a fatal result, his religious impressions revived, and he conversed freely with his friends on the subject. As he drew near the close of his life, in the full possession of his mental powers, he expressed still deeper sorrow for his neglect of the profession and duties of religion, but expressed a satisfactory reliance on the mercy of his Savior, of whom he always spoke with the most ardent adoration and gratitude. And when, two or three days before his death, he was told that his disease was incurable and he would soon die, he received the announcement with calm resignation. He continued to the close in a similar frame of mind, and expressed no desire to live except to convince the world of the sincerity of his faith. The closing scene was triumphant, although peaceful, and his last words were—"Thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ." He died on the morning of Thanksgiving, December 3, 1857, in the thirty-seventh year of his age.

Mr. Beckwith was married on the 28th day of June 1847, to Miss Abby M. Wainwright, daughter of Rufus Wainwright Esq., and Mrs. Abby (Sargeant) Wainwright. Being an only daughter, her parents were unwilling that they should leave them, and they remained to constitute a part of Mr. Wainwright's family. Besides the distressing bereavement of Mr. Beckwith's widow, his death brought deep affliction and sorrow alike upon the parents and inmates of two mourning families for the loss of a beloved son and brother.

EDWARD J. PHELPS Esq., son of Hon. Samuel S. Phelps, was

graduated at Middlebury College in 1840, pursued the study of law at the law school of Yale College, and in the office of his father in Middlebury. He was licensed in 1843, and commenced the practice here in partnership with E. D. Barber Esq., and after an extensive and increasing practice for two or three years, removed to Burlington, where he continued his practice until 1855, with an interruption of two or three years, while he held the office of second controller in the treasury department in Washington. In 1855 he removed to New York, but continued his practice also in the counties of Addison and Chittenden; and has recently returned to Vermont and fixed on Burlington for a residence.

DUGALD STEWART Esq., son of Hon. Ira Stewart, was graduated at Middlebury College in 1842, and was admitted to the bar in December 1847, but was immediately employed in the financial department of the Rutland and Burlington Railroad Company, and now holds the office of County Clerk for this county.

ERASTUS W. DRURY Esq. was admitted to the bar at the June term of the County Court in 1836. When he came to Middlebury, a few years before, he was employed as the editor and publisher of a newspaper, and, in the meantime, pursued the study of law preparatory to his admission. In December following he was appointed postmaster, and continued in that office about six years, so that he did not enter actively on the profession of law: Afterwards he remained in practice a few years,—principally in partnership with Charles Aiken Esq., who removed here from Springfield in this State, where he had been in practice,—and removed to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, where he resides. Mr. Aiken also removed to Wisconsin.

The following are the present resident lawyers.

Hon. PETER STARR, son of a clergyman of the same name in Warren Conn., was graduated at Williams College in 1799, and devoted the following year to the business of instruction, as the first preceptor of an academy then just established in Westfield Mass. The succeeding year he officiated as tutor in Williams College. He pursued his professional studies partly in Williamstown Mass. and partly in the office of Samuel Miller in this place. He was ad-

mitted to the bar in this county in February 1805, and immediately opened an office with an extensive and increasing practice. He has been several times called by the suffrages of the people to represent the town in the House of Representatives, and the county in the Senate. He was chosen a member of the Council of Censors in 1841, and has filled numerous offices and trusts in town. Except these partial interruptions, he has continued an extensive practice,—as counsellor and advocate—until within a few years past, the infirmities of increasing age have induced him to relinquish its active duties. In 1819 he was elected a member of the corporation of Middlebury College, and has since been a prominent and influential member of that body. He is also a member of the corporation of Addison County Grammar School, and has always afforded efficient aid in the promotion of our literary institutions.

OZIAS SEYMOUR Esq., son of Hon. Horatio Seymour, was graduated at Middlebury College in the year 1820. He pursued his professional studies at the Litchfield Law School, and was admitted to the bar in this county at the June term 1824. Since that time he has continued in extensive practice in this village, a part of the time in partnership with his father, and part of the time separately. He was chosen and officiated as State's Attorney for the county for six years from 1839, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1850.

JEDIDIAH S. BUSHNELL Esq., son of Rev. Jedidiah Bushnell of Cornwall, was graduated at Middlebury College in 1826, and was admitted to the bar in June 1830, after having pursued his professional studies in the office of Hon. Peter Starr. He immediately entered into partnership with Mr. Starr, and afterwards with Mr. Barber. He had afterwards a separate office; and until recently has held the office of Register of the Probate Court since 1841.

EMERSON R. WRIGHT Esq. was graduated at Middlebury College in 1838, studied law with Edward D. Barber Esq. and was licensed to practice in June 1842. He immediately commenced the practice in partnership with Mr. Barber, which was continued a short time, and he has since continued the practice separately until the present time. He held the office of postmaster during the ad-

ministration of Mr. Pierce, and for a short time under the administration of Mr. Polk.

JOHN W. STEWART Esq., son of Hon. Ira Stewart, was graduated at Middlebury College in 1847, and immediately entered upon the study of law in the office of Hon. Horatio Seymour. He was licensed in December 1849, and immediately opened an office for the practice of his profession, and still continues in extensive practice. He was elected State's Attorney three successive years, commencing in 1851, and has represented the town in the House of Representatives in the years 1856 and 1857. Since 1851 he has officiated as secretary of the corporation of Middlebury College.

WILLIAM F. BASCOM Esq., after his graduation at Middlebury College in 1838, entered on the business of teaching, and was for five or six years a tutor in Middlebury College. He was afterwards principal of several literary institutions. He had also been for several years principal of the Female Seminary in this village, and in the meantime pursued the study of law, and was admitted to the bar in December 1855. He opened an office in the village, but continued, for a short time, his connection with the seminary, so far as to superintend its general interests. In the spring of 1857, he removed to Minnesota, and afterwards to Lasalle in Illinois. He has since returned to the east, and has recently—May 1859—opened an office in this village. During his former residence in Middlebury, he was elected to represent the town in the Constitutional Convention of 1856.

RUFUS WAINWRIGHT Esq., son of the late Rufus Wainwright, was graduated at Middlebury College in 1852, having pursued his preparatory studies at the Addison County Grammar School. He was admitted to the bar in December 1856, and has his office in the rooms occupied by his brother-in-law, Julius A. Beckwith Esq.

PHYSICIANS.

Dr. WILLIAM BASS, from Windham Conn., pursued the studies of his profession at Westfield Mass., when there were no medical schools in the country, but the honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine was conferred on him by the corporation of Middlebury College in 1825. He settled in Middlebury as a physician in 1797,

when a young man. Soon after he purchased, as before stated, the dwelling house and part of the farm formerly owned by Capt. Stephen Goodrich, east of the village. In this place he continued to reside until the time of his death. In the meantime he built the large house on the premises, and otherwise enlarged and improved the homestead. Immediately on his settlement here, he entered into an extensive and increasing practice, which was enlarged by the removal of Drs. Willard and Matthews to other spheres. He was not only a skilful and faithful physician, but, by his social disposition and manners, became popular and a favorite in many families, in this and the neighboring towns. His practice was laborious and profitable, until near the close of his life, the infirmities of age and disease forced him to retire from it. He possessed sound judgment and practical common sense, and was popular as a man, as well as physician, and had an extensive influence in town and was often appointed to places of trust. He was distinguished for his benevolence in all his relations, and for his liberality to all our literary, religious and benevolent institutions. He was also a prominent and influential member and deacon of the Congregational Church. His death occurred in March 1851, at the age of seventy-five.

Dr. JONATHAN ADAMS ALLEN died at his residence in this village on the 2d of February, 1848, at the age of sixty. At a meeting of Addison County Medical Society in the same month, his death was announced, appropriate and highly commendatory resolutions were adopted, and Dr. S. Pearl Lathrop, of Middlebury, was appointed to prepare a biographical sketch of him, which was afterwards ordered to be published in the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal. This sketch we have before us. Our limits will allow us to use only a part of its materials, with such others as we possess.

The subject of this sketch "was of poor but respectable parentage." His father was Amos Allen, son of Seth Allen, who was an immigrant to this country from Wales. His mother was daughter of Abel Smith, and grand-daughter of Jonathan Adams of Medway, from whom he received his name. The mother of Jonathan Adams was killed by the Indians, and he, after his head was dashed against a stone, was left as dead, but was afterwards found alive, and be-

came distinguished in various departments of public life. Through him Dr. Allen's genealogy is traced to the origin of the family of John Adams and his son John Quincy Adams.

Dr. Allen was born at Holliston, Mass., on the 17th day of November, 1787. His father at an early day removed with his family to Newfane, Vt. Here he labored with his father on the farm. During this period he had only the advantages of a common school education. But having a thirst for learning, he purchased books for himself by trapping and selling furs. By this means he was able to store his mind with much useful knowledge. On the 17th of November, 1808, his 21st birth day, he started with a bundle containing his wardrobe, to "seek his fortune." He engaged in the duties of a school teacher, in the West Village of Townshend, in this state, and immediately made arrangements with the minister of the parish to be instructed in Latin. In this position he remained for several years, and afterwards gave his attention more directly to studies preparatory to the practice of medicine under the tuition of Dr. Paul Wheeler of Wardsborough. He also attended the lectures at Dartmouth College, under Dr. Nathan Smith, and there he received his degree of Doctor of Medicine, August 24, 1814. After a practice of two years at Wardsborough, in partnership with Dr. Wheeler, his instructor, he removed to Brattleboro in August, 1816.

In October, 1820, he was appointed to deliver lectures on Chemistry in Middlebury College, which he continued until 1826. He removed his family to Middlebury in the spring of 1822, and commenced practice here; and at the same time, he was appointed Professor of Materia Medica and Pharmacy in the Vermont Academy of Medicine, then in connection with Middlebury College. In this office he continued until 1829. He continued the practice of his profession in Middlebury until his death. His practice as a surgeon and physician was always extensive and increasing from year to year, and was not confined to the town or county in which he resided; but in cases of surgery and difficult cases of disease, he was often called beyond the limits of the state. Notwithstanding his great labors in his practice, he was always persevering in his studies, and employed all his leisure hours in the diligent pursuit of

knowledge. He not only became a learned physician, but directed his studies to other sciences, and especially to those branches of natural history more immediately connected with his profession. Among other specimens of Natural History, he made a handsome collection of minerals, which were purchased by Middlebury College, and constitute an important part of their cabinet. Several scientific articles which he wrote were published in Silliman's Journal of Science. He also published a still greater number of articles, on various branches of medical science, and the laws of nature, as applicable to the practice of medicine, in the Medical Journals. He was a prominent member of the State Medical Society, and an active and much respected member and officer of Addison County Medical Society, up to the time of his death.

Dr. Allen had many traits of character, besides his learning, which endeared him to his friends, professional associates, and especially to his patients. He was always amiable, unassuming and conscientious; always prompt in his attention to his patients, who were never neglected, whatever sacrifice it cost him. He wore himself out in their service. Even after he was enfeebled by disease, he continued his labors, until they induced or aggravated diseases which prematurely terminated his life. His usefulness was not confined to his professional duties, but as a citizen he was prompt by his aid and influence in promoting every good object.

Dr. Lathrop, in the sketch to which we have referred, says, "The crowning trait of character of Dr. Allen, and one which harmonized and rendered most valuable all his other qualities, was decided and stable Christian principle. He was a firm believer and supporter of the Christian religion, and for many years a member of the Congregational church. He first became connected with the church in Brattleborough, in 1818, then under the pastoral charge of Rev. Caleb Burge. Religion with him was not a matter of profession alone, but of principle. It exerted its benign influence on the affections of his heart, and exhibited itself, in its power and excellency, in the moulding of his thoughts, and generating of his actions.

For many years previous to his death, he resided in the house next

north of the Congregational church, on the paper mill road, now occupied by his son, Dr. Charles L. Allen.

Dr. OLIVER BARBER NORTON was born in Easton Washington County, New York, December 19, 1799. His mother having died when he was three months old, he was adopted as a child by Rev. Edward Barber, of Greenwich, N. Y., father of Edward D. Barber, with whose family he lived as a son, until he left it to engage in business for himself. To those most intimate, he exhibited, from his earliest boyhood, proofs of no ordinary talents and force of character, and manifested a great thirst for learning, and extended his researches into many branches beyond the routine of a common English education. At the age of twenty-three, he selected for his profession the practice of medicine; and continued his professional studies for two years under Dr. Cornelius Holmes. In the fall of 1822, he attended a course of lectures at the medical institution at Castleton, Vt. The summer following he became a member of Dr. J. A. Allen's summer school in Middlebury. He attended a second course of lectures the next fall, and, during the winter, he attended the anatomical lectures of Dr. Alden Marsh, in Albany. The following summer he again became a member of Dr. Allen's school, and "was chosen by the principal and students to give a course of lectures on Botany." The fall of 1824, he attended his third course of lectures at Castleton, and was admitted to the degree of Doctor of Medicine, which was conferred upon him at the next commencement of Middlebury College. He left the institution with a high reputation as a scholar, in the various branches of his profession.

The two following years, he assisted Dr. Allen in his practice, and in his school as a lecturer on Botany, Anatomy and Physiology; and the year following was a partner of Dr. Allen, and afterwards, until his death, he continued his practice separately in Middlebury. In the fall of 1829, he was threatened with a pulmonary consumption, but by the aid of a short journey to the south, recovered his health, so that he resumed his practice in the spring. During the fall of 1830, he was attacked with a disease which terminated in ulceration of the cartilage of his left knee joint, and ended his life on the 25th of April, 1831, at the early age of thirty-one.

Dr. Norton's death was universally lamented. His talents, and his professional learning were of a superior order. He had what we may call a tact, which few possess to the same degree, in detecting diseases and applying the remedy ; and he never prescribed for a disease until, after a patient examination, he thought he fully understood it. He was fast increasing in reputation and practice in his profession, and had already become a favorite in many families. His disposition was amiable and kind, and his manners unassuming and courteous, and he had become popular as a man as well as a physician.

Dr. RALPH GOWDEY was the son of Mrs Lucretia Gowdey, a widow who resided in Middlebury, much respected for many years. He graduated at Middlebury College in 1819. From that time to 1822, he was employed as a teacher in the State of Georgia. The climate not proving favorable to his health, he returned to Vermont, and entered upon the study of medicine. In the year 1825, he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine at the Vermont Academy of Medicine at Castleton. He immediately commenced the practice of his profession at Rutland, and in 1828 removed to Middlebury, his native place. From this time until his death he continued the practice with growing reputation, and with the increasing confidence of the people. He was unassuming in his disposition and manners, but his talents and learning were of an order to give him a high rank in his profession, and were soon duly appreciated in the community.

Dr. Jonathan A. Allen, who knew him well as a physician and personal friend, published in the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal a sketch of Dr. Gowdey's life and character. We knew him well also in both characters, and respected and loved him ; but Dr. Allen, from his position, was a more competent judge. We therefore make some quotations from his sketch. He says, "As a scholar Dr. Gowdey ranked high. His mind was well cultivated and properly balanced. In his deportment he was gentlemanly, unassuming and unofficious. He read much, reflected much, and remembered what he read. In ordinary conversation, he was affable, intelligent and interesting. so that a person could rarely be in his society for

any considerable time without becoming interested and delighted. For public speaking and debate, he had no relish."

"His professional opinions were based on sound pathological principles. He was strictly a pathological, not a routine practitioner. He was well acquainted with modern pathology, and with the general circle of Medical sciences. And if the inscrutable hand of Providence had not prevented, he would unquestionably have given full assurance that his recent appointment to an important professorship in the Vermont Academy of Medicine had been judiciously made. He possessed more than ordinary taste for the study of Intellectual Philosophy. To this science he devoted considerable attention, and upon this subject he left several essays unpublished."

"In his intercourse with his medical brethren, he was frank and honorable. This secured for him the universal respect of the profession. The estimation in which he was held by the public was evinced by his being twice elected a member of the General Assembly of the State," in 1838 and 1839. Many of the most important reports of committees, especially one on the geological survey of the State, were written by him. At this time he was laboring under the fatal disease of the lungs, which extended also to other organs, and had for some years rendered him incapable of performing the more laborious duties, and which finally terminated his life.

Dr. Allen further says,—“In his personal appearance, Dr. Gowdey was quite prepossessing, his stature being rather tall and slender, his countenance remarkably pleasant, his dark eye beaming with intelligence, while his hair, neither too black nor too light, spread agreeably over his well proportioned head. His constitution was not robust, nor had it been inured to hardship; yet he had, with temporary exceptions, possessed tolerable health till about four or five years since, when he was arrested, without any obvious cause, with pulmonary hemorrhage.” “Some years since Dr. Gowdey became a hopeful convert of Christianity, and made a public profession of his faith by uniting with the Congregational Church. It is said, of the great and solemn realities of religion he never doubted. As a Christian, he was uniform and consistent. With him the practical exhibition of the cross was an every day concern. This se-

cured to him an uncommon degree of calmness and equanimity. His confident assurance of the goodness and mercy of God sustained him, when, some time since, a beloved wife and a dear child were taken from him by death. These influences rendered him calm and composed through a trying, painful and protracted illness. When, in full view of an immediate death, he was addressed by a warm hearted visitant, in the pure language of compassion and sympathy, 'Doctor, I am sorry to see you in such trouble,' he coolly replied, 'I am not in trouble, but happy.' These were his last words." His death occurred on the 13th of June, 1840, at the age of thirty-seven.

Dr. STEPHEN PEARL LATHROP was graduated at Middlebury College in 1840. The year following he spent in teaching, as preceptor of Black River Academy, at Ludlow, in this State. He afterwards pursued the study of medicine at Middlebury, and in the meantime attended the lectures at the Vermont Medical College at Woodstock, and received his diploma, as Doctor of Medicine, at that institution in 1843. He then established himself in the practice in this place, which he continued until 1846. During this short period, his practice was not extensive, but he industriously pursued scientific studies, and was regarded as a distinguished scholar, in several departments of science, especially in Natural History. In this period he was appointed by the late Professor Charles B. Adams, his assistant in the department of Chemistry and Natural History, and in the geological survey of the State. From 1846 to 1849, he officiated, under appointment, as principal of the Female Seminary in Middlebury. In the latter year, he was elected Professor of Chemistry and Natural History in the College at Beloit, Wisconsin, and removed to that place, and continued a teacher in that college until the latter part of the year 1852, when he was elected a professor in the State University at Madison, Wisconsin. In this office he continued until his death, which occurred on the 25th of October, 1854.

Dr. CHARLES C. P. CLARK, from Tinmouth, was graduated at Middlebury College in 1843, and received his medical diploma at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York in 1847, and imme-

diately settled in the practice in Middlebury. He practiced a few years with increasing success and reputation, went to Paris to perfect himself in his profession, and on his return removed to Oswego, New York.

Dr. J. GERRY ROSS, who practiced on the Thompsonian system, established himself here about the year 1840. He continued his practice in this and the neighboring towns, much respected as a citizen, and patronized by many until the summer of 1856, when he removed to Shaftsbury, and has since removed to Brandon, where he now resides. He resided, while here, in the house next south of Moore's hotel, now owned and occupied by Mr. Valentine V. Clay, of the firm of Davenport and Clay.

Dr. EDWARD TUDOR was born in East Windsor, Conn., January 16, 1771. His father was "an eminent surgeon," who had resided "for some time in England for the completion of his medical education." Edward, who was his eldest son, had been fitted to enter college, and his father gave him his choice to enter Yale College and go through a regular classical course in that institution, or enter immediately on the study of Medicine. He chose the latter, and immediately commenced his professional studies, under the tuition of his father. In the course of his preparatory studies, he was sent to Philadelphia, under the more immediate direction of Dr. Rush, to whom he formed and retained, through life, a strong attachment. He there attended two courses of lectures, which was quite uncommon at that day, and received his medical degree. He continued to practice for some years, in connection with his father in East Windsor. He afterwards established himself in the practice in Orford, New Hampshire, where he was married. In 1804 he removed his family to Middlebury. Here he has practiced with success and high reputation, until the infirmities of age forced him to withdraw from active service. He was a diligent student, and through life sustained the reputation of a learned physician, and was an active and prominent member of Addison County Medical Society. He was a man of quiet habits and retiring disposition, and never intruded himself upon patients, or upon public notice. He left his patients to find him, instead of looking up them. But

he was a favorite physician in many of the most respectable families.

At the age of 87 years, while walking along the side walk, on the 3d of March 1858, he stepped upon a piece of ice, slipped, fell and broke his leg; from which he never recovered, but died of the injury on the 8th day of May following, and was 87 years of age the preceeding January. For some years he resided in the house on Pleasant Street, now occupied by Mr. David Piper. He afterwards purchased the lot and built the house now occupied by Mrs. Bell. For many of his last years, he has resided in the house where he died, next north of the Catholic Church on the Weybridge Street.

The following are the present resident physicians.

Dr. ZACCHEUS BASS, brother of the late Dr. William Bass, pursued his professional studies with his brother, and in the meantime attended two courses of lectures at the Medical School in New Haven, Conn., in the winters of 1813-14 and 1814-15. In 1829, the Corporation of Middlebury College conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He commenced practice in Middlebury in 1815, and has since been in a large and successful practice in this and the neighboring towns.

Dr. WILLIAM P. RUSSELL partly under the tuition of the late Dr. Jonathan A. Allen, and in part at the Berkshire Medical Institution, in Pittsfield, where he attended the lectures of that institution and received his medical diploma in 1830. He established himself here in practice in 1831, and has continued in the active and successful practice in this and the adjoining towns to the present time. He conducts also a large establishment of drugs, medicines and groceries.

Dr. Russell was appointed postmaster on the 20th day of May 1857, and still holds that office. The office is kept in his store in the Brewster block. His residence is in the large brick house, built by Jabez Rogers, next north of Mr. Seymour's late residence.

Dr. WILLIAM M. BASS, son of Dr. William Bass, was graduated at Middlebury College in 1832. He pursued his professional studies under different physicians, and at the Berkshire Medical Institution, at Pittsfield, Mass. He commenced practice at Grand Detour,

Illinois, from 1837 to 1846. At the latter period he returned to Middlebury, at the earnest solicitations of his father, whose increasing infirmities required his aid. Here he has continued the practice of medicine, and in addition to his professional duties, resides at the homestead, and has charge of an extensive farm.

Dr. CHARLES L. ALLEN, son of the late Dr. Jonathan A. Allen, was graduated at Middlebury College in 1842. After teaching for a year or two in North Carolina, he pursued his professional studies under the tuition of his father, and was a part of his time at the Vermont Academy of Medicine at Castleton, where he attended the lectures and received his degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1846. He has since been in active and successful practice in this and the neighboring towns. In addition to his practice, he was appointed and officiated as professor in the Medical Institution for a year or two: and has delivered lectures, on appointment for that purpose, in Chemistry and Physiology in Middlebury College.

Dr. HIRAM MEEKER was originally educated for the medical profession, but relinquished it for the ministry in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was stationed here in that capacity for two years, and at the close of this period, in the spring of 1853, he returned to his profession as a physician, on account of the health of his family, and has since continued in active practice.

Dr. NORMAN D. ROSS, son of Reuben Ross of this village, after completing his professional studies, commenced practice in Royalton, Vt. Here he continued two or three years, and in January 1854, removed and established himself in the practice in the village of East Middlebury, and has continued in active practice in that part of the town and in some neighboring towns.

Dr. NATHANIEL HARRIS, son of Lebbeus Harris and brother of Lebbeus Harris Jun., mentioned elsewhere, and a native of Middlebury, as early as July 1838, established himself here as a surgeon dentist, and has ever since been in the successful practice in this place,—longer, we believe, than any other dentist in the State. He has also occasionally extended his practice to other towns. In the meantime he attended the lectures at the Vermont Medical College at Woodstock, and received at that institution, in June 1842, the

degree of Doctor of Medicine. His office is at his residence, in the brick house built by Dr. Judd, on the west side of the creek.

Dr. HENRY KINSLEY was graduated at Middlebury College in 1838, and studied theology at the Andover Seminary, and entered upon the duties of that profession. But his health failing, he was obliged to relinquish it and direct his attention to other pursuits. After pursuing the study of dentistry, under Dr. Prime at Brandon and under several distinguished dentists in Massachusetts, he received from Dr. Prime what was called a diploma; and in August 1857, he established himself as a dentist in this place, and has since been in successful practice. His office is in the Brewster block, in the rooms formerly occupied for the postoffice.

As we have not been able, on account of the frequent changes, to give any history, or even sketches, of the merchants, mechanics, and those engaged in other employments, as we have of professional men, we have intended to print a list of those who are at present engaged in such employments, and the date of their establishment, but neglected to procure the list until so late a period, that our list will not be as perfect as we desire. We are obliged for that reason, to omit those belonging to East Middlebury; of which we have elsewhere given a rather general account. The dates following the names designate the time of their establishment.

MERCHANTS.

Zeechariah Beckwith, Dry Goods, Groceries, Furniture &c.	May	1827
S. Moody, now S. & W. S. Moody, Drugs, Medicines, Groceries &c.	July	1839
Dr. Wm P. Russel, Drugs, Medicines and Groceries,	June	1842
H. A. Sheldon, “ “ “ and Dry Goods,	Aug.	1843
James M. Slade & Co., Dry Goods, Groceries, &c.	“	1843
Harry Langworthy, “ “	March	1846
Edwin Vallette, “ “	April	1846
Simeon Holton, Jewelry, Clocks and Fancy Goods,	July	1850
James E. Negus, Merchant Tailor, Furnishing Goods &c.	Oct.	1851
Jason Davenport, Tin, Iron, Hardware, and Agricultural Tools,	April	1852
A. H. Copeland, Books, Stationary and Periodicals,	Sept.	1853
Wm. H. Remsen, Groceries, Provisions &c.	April	1856
Solo. Parker, successor to L. W. Clark, Books and Stationery,	March	1857
A. Magovern, Merchant Tailor,	April	1857
Chapman & Barbour, Dry Goods, Groceries &c.	May	1857

E. R. Clay, Millinery and Fancy Goods,	Sept. 1857
H. C. Wilcox, successor to H. Wilcox, Boots and Shoes,	March 1859
Mrs. A. A. Forbes, Millinery,	April 1859

GROCERIES.

A. Dustin, now Dustin & Kenworthy, Sept. 1814, G. W. Dustin, 1849.
H. C. Chapman, at Rail Road Station 1849, Lucius Shaw, April 1851.
Frank Fletcher, May 1857, George Langworthy, A. M. Williamson, August 1857.

MEAT MARKET.

William T. Porter, Successor to C. Ticknor.
A. M. Williamson.

MANUFACTURERS.

H. W. Pitts, Cotton Cloth and Yarn.	May 1849
Davenport & Clay, Woolen Cloths.	" 1854
Jason Davenport, Stoves, Machinery, Tin Ware &c.	1851
Amon Wilcox, Tin Ware &c.	
L. W. Huntington, Spring Beds, Mattresses &c.	
Charles Rose, Pails &c., at J. M. Slade & Co's Factory.	
Simeon Powers, and Mr. White, Axe Helves &c.	
J. M. Slade & Co. Potash.	
C. Wheeler, Chairs, Furniture &c. F. Fales Chairs.	

MECHANICS.

Ira Allen, Carriage Maker, 1814.
John Jackson, *Hatter*.
G. M. Brown, 1832, J. Caffrey, *Tailors*.
H. C. Wilcox, L. Harvey, *Shoemakers*.
Mrs. E. R. Clay, Mrs. P. Cleveland, Miss Thirza Adams, Mrs. A. A. Forbes, *Mil-liners*.
Simeon Holton, H. W. Brewster, *Goldsmiths*.
Horace Crane 1821, Ira Allen, Louis Hope, J. Donahue, *Blacksmiths*.
M. Phinney, N. Brusso, *Sadlers*.
L. W. Huntington, *Upholsterer*.
A. D. Stearns, Samuel Brooks, William Kingsley, T. O. Flanagan, C. Rose, D. M. Goldrich, *Painters*.
John Sellick, *Cabinet Maker and Turner*.
Cyrus Morton, John H. Simmons, Caleb Morton, O. Severance E. B. Parker, David Piper, J. F. Bolton, W. C. Langworthy, A. S. Tracy, L. Stearns, George Sawyer, S. Pinney, H. Dean, W. Bisbee, W. Latimer, J. King, *Carpenters and Joiners*.
Oliver Wellington, J. Barnaby, J. Morcomb, Orin Abby, *Masons*.
J. P. Huntington, *Dyar*.
A. Dustin, G. W. Dustin, *Barbers*.
Mead & Fuller, *Printers*.
H. Richardson, *Book Binder*.
John H. Simmons, *Machinery for Planing and Joiner Work*.

CHAPTER XXII.

EDUCATIONAL—COMMON SCHOOLS—ADDISON COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

THE first school house built and the two first schools opened in town for children were those mentioned in the statement of Miss Torrance, in the south part of the town, where the principal settlements then were. The first school in the neighborhood of the village was kept by Mrs. Goodrich, wife of William Goodrich Esq., about the year 1791. They then resided in a house on the rising ground east of Dr. Bass's, near Mr. Conroe's barn, and her school was in a small school house on the opposite side of the road. We have no knowledge of other schools established at an early day, except such as are incidentally mentioned in our history. The first official act of the town, on the subject of schools, was a vote in December 1790, to divide the town into four school districts. Votes were afterwards passed, from time to time, increasing the number and changing the boundaries of the districts. The present number of districts is eleven, known by the names of the numbers attached to them. The large districts in the village, one on each side of the creek, constitute two of them. The changes have been, and promise to be, so frequent, that it is more than the object is worth to trace here their boundaries.

The laws of the State require "each organized town to support one or more schools, provided with competent teachers," and if more than one is needed, the town is required to divide their territory "into as many school districts as shall be judged most convenient." These districts are constituted corporations, for the purpose of maintaining schools, and may hold estate and assess taxes for that purpose. The district clerk is required to ascertain annually the num-

ber of children in his district, between the ages of four and eighteen, and return a list of them to the town clerk, with a certificate of the number of weeks a school has been kept the preceding year. Previous to the statute of 1850, the districts were authorized, if they chose, to raise money for the support of the schools "by subscription, or by apportioning the same to the scholars, who shall attend the school, or otherwise." By the statute of that year it was enacted that "all moneys raised by school districts, for the payment of teachers' wages, shall be raised upon the grand list, and moneys, raised by a tax upon the scholars, shall be appropriated only to defray the expenses of fuel and teachers' board." Provision has been made also by the legislature, authorizing large districts to establish also a higher or central school, or several districts to unite for a similar purpose; but no such provisions have been adopted in this town.

Previous to 1836, a large amount of funds had accumulated in the United States treasury, beyond the wants of the government, and Congress, by an act approved June 23d of that year, ordered that "the money, which shall be in the treasury on the first of January 1837, reserving the sum of five millions of dollars, shall be deposited with the several States, in proportion to their respective representation, in the Senate and House of Representatives, as shall by law authorize their treasurer, or other competent authorities to receive" and give the required certificate for the same. The certificate was required to pledge the faith of the State to return the money, when called for. The deposits were to be made in four instalments, on the first of January, April, July and October 1837. After having delivered three instalments, on the 2d of October, Congress enacted that "the transfer of the fourth instalment be postponed till the first day of January 1839," and it has never been paid.

The legislature, by their act passed November 17th 1836, agreed to accept their share of the deposit, according to the terms proposed, and authorized the treasurer to receive it and give the required receipt. The amount they directed the treasurer to distribute among the several towns, according to their population, as as-

certained by the census of 1830, and to make a new apportionment at each succeeding census. The act required also, that the several towns should "choose by ballot three trustees, who should receive, take care of and manage the moneys deposited with the respective towns." And they directed the trustees to loan the money on good security, at six per cent. interest, "for a term not exceeding one year at a time," and pay the income annually into the town treasury to "be distributed by the selectmen to the several school districts." This town, at a meeting called for that purpose on the 26th of December 1836, voted to receive their share of the fund deposited, and elected by ballot Elisha Brewster, Paul Champlin and Edwin Hammond trustees of the fund. The trustees, at the annual March meeting in 1838, reported, "that they have received in three instalments the sum of \$8,278 89, and had loaned it, on good security, to individuals at six per cent, in sums of \$100, or less." And the meeting by vote directed them to pay the interest into the town treasury by the 15th day of July next. And this has been done from year to year, so long as the fund was loaned to individuals.

The amount of the above fund and the small amount of the rents received from school lands, in most of the towns, constitute all the permanent funds, appropriated for the support of schools. The remainder it is necessary to raise by direct taxation. It is therefore provided by statute, that the selectmen shall annually "assess a tax of nine cents on the dollar of the list of the town," for the use of schools. In case the town has other funds, which, after deducting one half of the United States deposit money, will amount to the sum raised by the tax or a part of it, the tax or a proportion of it may be omitted. The tax in this town is five per cent. If the funds provided by law are insufficient, the deficiency is to be raised by taxes on the district.

The selectmen by law have the charge and management of all the real and personal estate, appropriated for the use of schools, and they are required annually, on the first day of March, to divide the proceeds of the tax, with the income of all the funds, appropriated for schools, between the several districts, one fourth part equally, for the relief of small districts, and the remainder in proportion to

the number of children between the ages of four and eighteen.

Such is substantially the system, under which the schools in this town, have been maintained. School houses of more or less comfort and convenience have been built, and teachers, more or less qualified have been employed in the several districts. In the large districts in the village, separate rooms are provided in the same building, with separate teachers, and the children have been classified, somewhat according to age, sex and studies.

At an early day, the legislature directed the selectmen, in the several towns, where there were lands, under the New Hampshire charters, belonging to the glebe right, or rights for the Propagation of the Gospel, to lease them, and appropriate the rents for the use of schools. This appropriation of the glebe rights was regarded as valid, by the decision of the United States Courts. But the lands belonging to the Propagation rights, were, by the same authority, retained for their original purpose. The first and second division of the school right, and the glebe right had been leased, and previous to the decision, the first division of the Propagation right had been leased for the use of schools, but has since been surrendered. The first and second hundred acre divisions of the school right and of the glebe right are the only lands leased for the use of schools. No. 2 is the first hundred acre division of the school right, of which Andrew Bain owns the lease. The second hundred acre division of this right was surveyed by Judge Painter in 1775, lying on the Salisbury line and east of Nathaniel Everts' lot of that division, and the lease is owned by Capt. Joel Boardman. The first hundred acre division of the glebe right is No. 49, and the lease of the west half is owned by William Carr Jr., and the east half by Abel Abbey; and the second hundred acre division of that right lies within the limits of the first division between the town plot on the west, and the east tier on the east: and the lease is owned by Elijah S. Boyce. The rents of these lands, which were entirely wild, were so small, that the town adopted the policy of loaning the rents, to constitute an accumulating fund, to be divided, when it would be of greater benefit. This plan was opposed by a part of the citizens, and the question was agitated in town meetings for sev-

eral years. In the meantime trustees were appointed from the several districts, who had charge of the fund. At the annual meeting in 1817, the trustees were directed "to deliver all notes and securities for the school fund to the town clerk," and he was directed to collect them. This measure was adopted to make preparation for a distribution: and not long after the fund was divided. The shares, which belonged to the two districts in the village, were appropriated for the erection of the brick school houses on each side of the creek.

The amount of the United States deposit money received in 1837 was \$8,278 89. On the new apportionment after the census of 1840, there was refunded to the State treasurer the sum of \$1,032 21: and after the census of 1850 the sum of \$255 08 was returned, leaving now in possession of the town the sum of \$7,501 76. The fund annually distributed in Middlebury among the districts is as follows:

Interest on the deposit,	-	-	-	\$450 10
Amount of rents,	-	-	-	119 00
Proceeds of tax in 1856,	-	-	-	387 00
Amounting in the whole to				\$956 10

The common schools in this town are not what they ought to be, although the provisions of the law have been generally complied with, and they have been gradually improving from the first settlement. The want of funds has heretofore been an obstacle to their improvement. At an early day the expenses of the schools were more generally paid by taxes on the scholars, and provisions were otherwise so inadequate for making them respectable, that, especially in the village, select schools became common. The doctrine that the education of the children is a public interest, and should be supported at the public expense, has been extending and gradually coming into practice. When the rich are compelled to pay for the support of the public schools, in proportion to their property, instead of the number of their children, it is an inducement to them to improve those, instead of patronizing select schools. The friends of education have long felt, that the schools in Vermont

were altogether below the standard they ought to occupy; and the tendency of the legislature has been to improve them. And there is a sanguine expectation, that the plans recently adopted by the legislature, for the general superintendence of the school system, through the State, will make them better.

ADDISON COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

By an act of the legislature on the 8th of November 1797, a Grammar School was established in Middlebury, under a corporation by the name of the "Corporation of Addison County Grammar School." Full powers were granted to the corporation to acquire and hold the necessary estate, and for other purposes necessary for sustaining a permanent school; and to hold and use all the lands in the county, reserved and appropriated for that use, in the charters granted by this State. The trustees, appointed by the act, were Gamaliel Painter, Seth Storrs, Samuel Miller, Daniel Chipman and Darius Matthews. The trustees are authorized to add to their number; but the whole number is not to exceed twelve. A proviso is added to the act, "that the inhabitants of Middlebury, and such others as may voluntarily subscribe therefor, shall build and finish a good and sufficient house for said Grammar School, of the value of one thousand dollars, by the next stated session of the legislature, and shall forever after keep the same in good repair." The inhabitants immediately set themselves to work to fulfil the condition, but did not limit their expenditures to one thousand dollars. The design was already formed to establish a college, and provide a building, which would accommodate such an institution, at least for a time. Accordingly a subscription was raised in this and the neighboring towns, and the wooden building since used for the college, eighty feet by forty, and three stories high, was completed in 1798, within the time limited by the act. It was divided into convenient rooms for students, with a public room for a chapel, and other uses, in the centre of the upper story.

The land on which the building, together with the extensive grounds connected with it, was, in July 1800, and previous to the charter of the college, deeded to the corporation by Seth Storrs,

Darius Matthews, Appleton Foot, Stillman Foot and Anthony Rhodes. Most of the land was owned by Col. Storrs; but the grounds embraced small pieces belonging to the other grantors.

Rev. Jeremiah Atwater, of New Haven, Conn., was appointed principal of the grammar school, in anticipation of his becoming president of the college, when established. Until 1805, both institutions were continued in the same building, and President Atwater continued nominally principal of the academy, although the instruction was given by a tutor or other officer of the college. At that time the preparatory school was removed to the building erected for the Female Seminary, that institution being vacant in consequence of the death of Miss Strong.

Since the separation, the following preceptors have had charge of the academy for the periods designated :

APPOINTED.	LEFT.	APPOINTED.	LEFT.
1805 Rev. Chester Wright	1807	1823 Rev. Addison Parker	1824
1807 Rev. John Frost	1808	1824 Rev. Lucius L. Tilden	1825
1808 Rev. Richard Hall	1809	1825 Hon. Horace Eaton	1826
1809 Rev. Benjamin B. Stockton	1810	1826 Rev. John Wild	1827
1810 Hon. Zimri Howe	1811	1827 Rev. John J. Owen	1828
1811 Rev. Joseph Labaree	1813	1828 Rev. Truman M. Post	1828
1813 Rev. Otto S. Hoyt	1814	1828 Rev. Edwin Hall	1830
1814 Rev. Reuben Post	1815	1830 G. T. Thompson, Esq.	1834
1815 Rev. Daniel Hemenway	1816	1834 Henry W. Ellsworth, Esq.	1835
1816 Rev. Benson C. Baldwin	1817	1835 Rev. Merrill Richardson	1837
1817 Milo Cook, Esq.	1818	1837 William Warner, Esq.	1838
1818 Rev. Beriah Green	1819	1838 Rev. John Bradshaw	1841
1819 Rev. George C. Beckwith	1820	1841 Rev. Azariah Hyde	1843
1820 Rev. Ora Pierson	1820	1846 Daniel A. Bowe	1849
1820 Rev. Roswell Pettibone	1821	1849 Eleazar Sherman	1850
1821 Rev. Uzziah C. Burnap	1823	1851 Thomas S. Pearson	1853

When more permanent teachers have not been engaged, temporary teachers have been employed to supply their place.

Rev. Joseph Steele, in the spring of 1857, was appointed preceptor and principal, and it was hoped it might be sustained until it should assume a more permanent character. But from the want of adequate funds, he found it difficult to give it this character, and re-

linguished it. The only permanent funds are the rents of the Grammar School lands in the county, which amount to a little over \$100 annually,—hardly sufficient to keep the building in repair. The lands are principally in the mountain towns, where only charters were granted by this State. Other charters were granted by the Governor of New Hampshire, and contained no appropriation for that purpose. While similar institutions were less common, popular teachers collected large schools, with a liberal income from tuition alone. Some of the teachers have received from the treasury, in addition to this income, from fifty to one hundred dollars annually. But the income has never been sufficient, and sufficiently certain to induce competent teachers to make it a permanent business. The citizens of Middlebury and vicinity would doubtless, long since, have adequately endowed this institution, if their liberality had not been exhausted on the college, which they regarded as a more important object. We hope it will not be long before some efforts will be put forth for a thorough endowment, as such an institution, of a high order, is greatly needed in this vicinity.

After Mrs. Willard opened her school at her own residence, the building erected for the female seminary was wholly given up to the Grammar School. In 1820, the principal proprietors of that building transferred their shares to the corporation of that institution. In 1843 that building came to be regarded as inconvenient, on account of its location and otherwise, and some measures were adopted to provide a different place. In 1844 a negotiation was opened with the corporation of the college, for occupying the wooden building, originally erected for the grammar school, or a part of it, and arrangement was made for that purpose. Accordingly a part of the lower story was altered and fitted up for that purpose, and the school has since been held there. The land, on which the female school building was erected, was deeded only for the use of such a school by Hon. Horatio Seymour, and being deserted by both schools, the whole was surrendered to him, on his making some compensation for the building, to enable the corporation to fit up the rooms in the college building. The corporation have also, with the aid of contributions from the citizens, enclosed with a railing the building

and the extensive common west of it; and by the liberal donation of several hundred dollars, by Charles Starr Esq., of New York, the grounds have been prepared and planted with ornamental trees and shrubbery.

CHAPTER XXIII.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE.

AT an early day the leading citizens of Middlebury felt the importance of establishing literary institutions, not only for the advantage of their own town, but because they were needed in the formation of an intelligent community in the state, then just opened for settlement, and rapidly filling up with an enterprising population. As an explanation of the efforts then made, and the measures adopted for the purpose, we commence the history of Middlebury College with a quotation from Rev. Timothy Dwight, D. D., then president of Yale College. In his extensive travels in New England and New York, he visited Middlebury three times,—in 1798, 1806 and 1816. Of his first visit, among other things, he states as follows.

“An academy was nearly completed, which was intended to be the germ of a future college.” “The evening of the 30th (of September) I spent in company with a number of gentlemen, in a consultation concerning this projected seminary, at the house of S. Miller Esq. They informed me that a college was already incorporated in the State, the intended seat of which was to be Burlington; that it had been incorporated some years and was liberally endowed; but that, for various reason, which were specified, nothing material had been done toward carrying it into operation; that although some indecisive efforts had been made by the trustees soon after their appointment, all its concerns had, for a considerable time been at a stand; that there was now less reason to expect any efficacious efforts from those gentlemen, than there had been heretofore; as they themselves appeared to have relinquished both exertion and hope. The gentlemen then explained to me their own views of the



importance of such an institution to their state; the propriety of making this town the seat of it; their own intentions and the wishes of many respectable people in the State, who coincided with them in the opinion, which they had expressed to me. When they had unfolded their views, I frankly communicated to them my own; and have since had no reason to complain, that they were disregarded. I will only add, that the local situation of Middlebury, the sober and religious character of the inhabitants, their manners and various other circumstances render it a very desirable seat for such a seminary." In 1811, after his visits of 1806 and 1810, he makes the following record :

"The academy, which I have mentioned above, began to prosper from the time when it was opened; and was in the year 1800 raised by an act of incorporation into a college. From that time to the present it has continued to prosper; although all its funds have been derived from private donations, and chiefly, if not wholly, from the inhabitants of this town. The number of students is now one hundred and ten; probably as virtuous a collection of youths, as can be found in any seminary in the world. The faculty consists of a president, a professor of law, a professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, who teaches chemistry also, a professor of languages and two tutors. The inhabitants of Middlebury have lately subscribed 8,000 dollars for the purpose of erecting another collegiate building. When it is remembered, that twenty-five years ago this spot was a wilderness, it must be admitted, that these efforts have done the authors of them the highest honor."

These extensive quotations will save the necessity of saying more relating to the origin of the institution. On the first day of November 1800, an act was passed by the legislature, establishing a college under a corporation by the name of the "President and Fellows of Middlebury College." Rev. Jeremiah Atwater, who had officiated as principal of Addison County Grammar School, was by the act constituted the "present President," and Nathaniel Chipman, Heman Ball, Elijah Paine, Gamaliel Painter, Israel Smith, Stephen R. Bradley, Seth Storrs, Stephen Jacob, Daniel Chipman, Lot Hall Aaron Leeland, Gershom C. Lyman, Samuel

Miller, Jedidiah P. Buckingham and Darius Matthews, "the present Fellows." The act contains a proviso, that it should not be construed to give the corporation any right to the "property or estate, which had been or should be granted for the use of a college in this State" or "granted and appropriated by this state to the University of Vermont." The lands reserved for that purpose, in the charters granted by this state, had been devoted to the University of Vermont at Burlington, which was incorporated in 1791.

Under this charter the college went into immediate operation, and two classes were received into the institution the same fall. The Grammar School, for about five years, was continued in connection with it, under the same superintendence, and the members were instructed by a tutor. The first class in college, consisting of one member. Aaron Petty—was graduated in 1802. The graduating classes, from this time continued to increase, and in 1805 consisted of sixteen, in 1808 of twenty-three, and in 1811 of nineteen, which were the largest classes to this period. Rev. Jeremiah Atwater resigned the office of president in 1809, and on the 26th day of September of that year was inaugurated as president of Dickinson College at Carlisle, Penn. He continued in this office until August 1815, when he resigned, and established his residence, in his native town, New Haven, Conn., where he has since resided.*

Rev. Henry Davis D. D., as successor of President Atwater, entered upon the duties of the office in 1811, and resigned it in 1817. The classes under his administration, for several years, had increased, and in 1812, the graduating class consisted of 26, in 1813 of 29, in 1814 of 28, and in 1815 of 30. The other classes during this period were considerably smaller. President Davis had been a professor in Yale College and afterwards in Union College at Schenectady. He occupied the latter office, when he was chosen president of this institution. Besides his eminent talents, he had a commanding person, address and eloquence, which gave him great popularity as president. On the death of Dr. Dwight, he was elected president of Yale College, but declined the office. Soon

*President Atwater died at New Haven, Conn., in July 1858, aged 84 years.

after he was chosen president of Hamilton College at Clinton N. Y., and accepted the appointment, which was the occasion of his resigning the same office here in 1817. After a few years he also resigned the office of president of Hamilton College: but continued his residence at Clinton until his death, which occurred in 1852.

Dr. Davis was succeeded in the office of president, by Rev. Joshua Bates D. D., who entered upon the duties of that office in 1818. He was graduated, with distinguished honor, at Harvard College in 1800, and was settled as a pastor of the first Congregational church in Dedham Mass., in 1803. In this position he remained until elected president of this institution. He brought to his new position an established character, as a scholar and as a man. Through the influence of his talents, learning and untiring devotion to the interests of the college, it was, during most of his administration in great prosperity, and the average number of the classes was larger than previously, and the graduating class in 1838 consisted of forty. While he was in office the under graduates rose to the number of 100. It had been Dr. Bates' design to return to the clerical profession, to which he was greatly attached, several years earlier than he did. While president, it was his delight, and he was often invited, to preach on public occasions and in destitute places, where his ministrations were highly appreciated. He resigned the office of president in 1839, and in the succeeding session of Congress, he officiated as chaplain of the House of Representatives, and continued to preach in various places, and was finally settled as a pastor in Dudley Mass., in which position he continued until his death in 1853, at the age of seventy-seven.

Rev. Benjamin Labaree, D. D., was elected to the office of president, and entered upon its duties in 1840. From various causes occurring about the time, the numbers of the classes were somewhat diminished before and about the time of the close of Dr. Bates' administration. From 1838 to 1840, through the resignations and deaths of the officers, there was a total change in the faculty. At the time of its greatest prosperity, the reputation of Middlebury College drew students from nearly all the New England States from New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and some from as

far south as Georgia. At this time the University of Vermont was in successful operation; Dartmouth College on the eastern and Williams College on the southern border of the state, and Union College not far off, had risen on their endowments and standing before the public. In a competition with such a multitude of well endowed colleges, this institution could not be expected to sustain its reputation over so wide a field, without persevering and successful efforts to enlarge also its endowments. These efforts the corporation have been and are making, and the influence is to some extent felt in the gradually increasing number of its students.

The college, at its commencement, was entirely destitute of funds. Until the year 1816, the only building belonging to the institution was the wooden building previously erected for the Addison County Grammar School. The tutors, for some years, were wholly supported by contributions of the citizens. Frederick Hall, in 1806, was appointed to the professorship of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, which was then established, with a very small salary, and in part sustained by a donation from Samuel Miller, Esq. While in office he went to Europe to qualify himself more thoroughly for his department, and on his return claimed a higher compensation. A considerable part, if not the whole of the addition, was subscribed and guaranteed by the citizens. A similar addition was afterwards made to the salary of President Davis, and paid in the same way. The citizens, many of whom were young men who had adopted this as their home, were early trained to the duty of sustaining the literary institutions; and it is hardly necessary to say that they entered upon their duty with zeal.

The only funds ever received from the state is about \$1400. The University of Vermont had received a loan from the State School fund, which had been on interest for several years, and on application of that institution to be released from the payment, the legislature in 1852, directed the amount to be divided between that corporation, Middlebury College and Norwich University.

While Professor Hall was in Paris in 1807, an American gentleman residing there, by the name of Daniel Parker, placed at his disposal the sum of one hundred and seventy-eight dollars. To this

sum, in 1820, Professor Hall added a sufficient sum to amount to \$300. This sum he presented to the college as a permanent fund, known as the Parkerian fund, the income of which was to be appointed to provide premiums for the best speakers selected from the lower classes. This exhibition has been held the evening before commencement, and has been attended by large audiences.

In the year 1810, not long after Dr. Davis was inaugurated as president, the corporation began to feel the necessity of a new building for the accommodation of the increasing number of students, and in October of that year, voted to erect a new college building, on the ground deeded by Col. Seth Storrs. The citizens had previously subscribed \$3,000, toward that object. The sum was afterwards increased, and soon materials were collected and preparations made, and the stone college for students' rooms was completed in 1816, on its present beautiful site.

The first considerable effort to raise funds was undertaken by President Davis, in the fall of 1815, to raise the sum of \$50,000. His first effort for this purpose evinces his great power over the minds of others, as well the readiness of the citizens to be controlled on such an occasion. He invited a meeting at the hotel, and after the citizens had assembled, he addressed them in a most eloquent and persuasive speech. Before the meeting had dispersed, they had subscribed \$20,000 in good faith, although some of the subscribers were scarcely worth the amount of their subscriptions. He met with such success, in other towns, that, by the following spring, the whole fifty thousand dollars had been subscribed, and he was encouraged to expect, that it would be raised to \$100,000. Accordingly, in April, the corporation authorized him to proceed, on the condition that the addition should reduce the previous subscriptions proportionally, so that all the subscribers should be held to pay only \$50,000. No great additions however were afterwards made; and many, who had subscribed began to feel, that they had promised more than was convenient for them to pay. Dr. Davis had such strong confidence himself and gave such strong assurances respecting the result, that on the prosecution of some of the subscriptions, resistance was made to the collection on the ground of fraud-

ulent representations. And it was afterwards decided, that the subscriptions were invalid on that ground. This placed the corporation in an embarrassed condition. But previous to the decision about \$14,000 had been paid for principal and interest. Not long after also the large legacy of Judge Painter, who died in 1819 and the legacy of Joseph Burr of Manchester, of \$12,500 came to their relief. According to the will of Mr. Burr, the income of his legacy was to be appropriated for the support of a professor, and by vote of the corporation, the professorship of chemistry and natural history was placed on that foundation and bears the name of the donor. In the year 1818, a subscription of several thousand dollars, principally in the County of Windham, was made for the benefit of the chemical department, and is known as the chemical fund.

These sums were received under the administration of Dr. Bates. Under his administration also, in 1835, Don. Isaac Warren, of Charleston Mass., bequeathed to the college the sum of \$3,000, the income of which was to be appropriated for the education of young men for the ministry. But the principal subscription, under his administration was raised in 1833 of \$50,000. Fifteen thousand dollars of this was expended in erecting the stone building for a chapel and other public rooms, and about \$2,000 in altering and repairing the wooden building, and the remainder was appropriated to the current expenses. About the same time a small subscription of \$740 was raised, the income of which is appropriated to pay the tuition of distinguished and successful students in need of aid, and is called the Literary fund. Five hundred dollars of this fund was contributed by William Bartlett Esq., of Newburyport Mass.

Since the inauguration of Dr. Labaree, the finances have assumed a more settled form. A scattering subscription from 1840 to 1843 was obtained for \$9,200: in 1848 one of \$25,000, and in 1852 another of 35,000. In 1853, a friend of the college offered a donation of \$10,000, on condition that a further sum of \$20,000 should be raised,—the whole amount to constitute permanent and temporary scholarships. The condition has been complied with. To all these later subscriptions the alumni have been liberal contributors. Among the recent donations, we ought not to omit the

legacy of the late Joseph P. Fairbanks Esq. of St. Johnsbury, for \$10,000.

Besides the donations above mentioned, several lots of land in different parts of the state have been deeded to the college, some of which to the amount of \$700, have been leased. A part of the more recent subscriptions have not yet been paid, but the principal share has been received and vested for a general fund, besides the Burr fund, and the several smaller specific funds. In addition to the donations already mentioned, Gen. Arad Hunt of Hinsdill N. H., in 1813, deeded to the corporation a large tract of land in Albany, Orleans County, estimated at more than five thousand acres. A very important portion of the income of the college is derived from the rents of these lands.

The Associated Alumni first met at the commencement in 1824; and have since held their annual meetings at commencement, and appointed an orator and poet. Several of the addresses have been published. They early adopted measures for the semi-centennial celebration of the establishment of the college in 1850. On this occasion large numbers assembled, and among them, gentlemen of distinction in the various professions, together with several of the former officers of the college. Among the exercises were interesting addresses by Rev. Dr. Bates, late president, and Rev. Dr. Hough, late professor. The exercises were closed by a numerously attended dinner, at which several addresses were made, and among them a characteristic poem by John G. Saxe Esq. A full account of the proceedings was published at the time, in a pamphlet of near 200 pages. At this celebration, the alumni proposed to raise a subscription of \$35,000; and eight subscriptions of \$500 each, with several smaller ones were made on the spot. This subscription was completed in 1852, as before stated.

At an early day after the establishment of the college, a literary association was formed by the students, by the name of the Philomathesian Society, and was incorporated in 1852. It has its meetings weekly for literary improvement, and an annual celebration at commencement, at which an address is delivered by some disting-

nished gentleman selected for that purpose. It has a well selected library of 2500 volumes.

In 1804 a religious association was formed, by the name of the Philadelphian Society, consisting of professors of religion, which "is designed to promote among its members a knowledge of divine things." It is thought to have had a happy influence, not only on the members, but upon the college generally. Its library contains eight hundred volumes of religious and theological books.

The "Beneficent Society" was formed in 1813 "for the purpose of providing indigent students with text books." Professor Fowler, in his account of the college in 1837, says,—"It furnishes three-fourths of all the students of the college the necessary text books. Indigent students obtain their books free of expense, and other members obtain the same privilege by paying a small sum annually."

A few valuable books were obtained for the use of the college by the contribution of some of its friends, at the establishment of the college. But no serious effort was made to establish a library until 1809. At that time about one thousand dollars were raised by subscription of the citizens, and divided into shares of twenty-five dollars each. The owners of the shares were entitled to a limited privilege of using the books, but they have since generally sold or surrendered their shares to the college. The library from that time has been increased by appropriations from the treasury. The present number of volumes is 5600.

The principal part of the philosophical apparatus was imported from London in 1817, although a few articles had been obtained previously, and some additions have been occasionally made since. It is still deficient in amount, but is sufficient for the ordinary instruction in that department.

Of the department of chemistry and natural history, Professor Isaac F. Holton says,—"The laboratory was originally small and ill arranged, but the space given to chemistry has just been enlarged, and a series of improvements commenced, which, when completed, will add many fold to the facilities for teaching this branch. It is supplied with apparatus and chemicals on a very liberal scale indeed, and the design is to enlarge and improve this provision. The cabi-

net is as large as any mere literary college ought to desire. A process of judicious exchanges, and moderate collections is necessary to adapt it to the best possible illustration of a full course of natural history. The department occupies the entire lower floor of the chapel building."

The following is a list of those, who have occupied the offices designated. Our limits do not authorize us to copy the long lists of the members of the corporation or of the tutors.

SECRETARIES.

FROM	TO	DEED	FROM	TO	DEED
1800 Seth Storr, Esq.	1807	1837	1826 Hon. Harvey Bell	1842	1848
1800 Hon. Peter Starr	1815		1843 Rev. Lucius L. Tilden	1851	
1815 Hon. Samuel Swift	1825		1851 John W. Stewart, Esq.		

TREASURERS.

1800 Hon. Darius Matthews	1808	1819	1827 Hon. Samuel Swift	1830	
1808 Samuel Miller, Esq.	1808	1810	1839 Hon. Peter Starr	1842	
1808 Hon. Samuel Swift	1810		1842 Rev. Thomas A. Merrill	1852	1855
1810 John Simmons, Esq.	1820	1829	1852 Julius A. Beckwith Esq.	1854	1857
1820 William G. Hooper	1824	1850	1854 Rev. Jos. D. Wickham	1855	
1820 Rev. Wm. C. Fowler	1827		1855 Prof. W. H. Parker.		

PROFESSORS OF LAW.

1806 Hon. D. Chipman LL.D.	1810		1816 Hon. N. Chipman LL.D.	1846	
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OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL HISTORY.

1806 Frederic Hall, LL. D.	1824	1843	1838 Alex. C. Twining, A. M.	1847	
1825 Edward Turner, A. M.		1838	1848 William H. Parker, A. M.		
1838 Solo. Stoddard, A. M.	1843				

OF LATIN AND GREEK LANGUAGES.

1811 Rev. Oliver Hulburt	1812	1814	1825 Rev. John Hough, D.D.	1838	
1812 Rev. Joan Hough, D.D.	1817		1838 Solomon Stoddard, A. M.	1847	
1817 Solomon M. Allen		1817	1848 R. D. C. Robbins, A. M.		
1818 Robert B. Patton, P.D.	1825	1839			

OF THEOLOGY.

1817 Rev. John Hough, D.D.	1825				
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OF CHEMISTRY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

1828 Rev. W. C. Fowler, A. M.	1838		1848 Hon. Horace Eaton	1854	1855
1838 Chas. B. Adams, A. M.	1847	1853	1856 Isaac F. Holton, A. M.	1857	

OF RHETORIC AND ENGLISH LITERATURE.

1838 Rev. John Hough, D.D.	1839		1851 Rev. Jos. B. Bittenger	1853	
1840 Rev. Albert Smith, A. M.	1844		1853 Rev. George N. Boardman.		
1846 Hon. James Meacham	1850	1856			

The following constitute the present faculty :

Rev. BENJAMIN LABAREE, D. D., President, and Professor of Moral Philosophy.

WILLIAM H. PARKER, A. M., Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy.

RENSSELAER D. C. ROBBINS, A. M., Professor of Languages.

GEORGE HADLEY, A. M., M. D., Professor of Chemistry and Natural History.

Rev. GEORGE N. BOARDMAN, A. M., Professor of Rhetoric and English Literature, and Pro-tempore Professor of Intellectual Philosophy.

CHARLES M. MEAD, A. B., Tutor in Latin and Greek.

LEWIS A. AUSTIN, A. B., Tutor and Librarian.

In the preceding list of professors are the names of several distinguished scholars who have passed away, and who, in other relations, would deserve a distinct biographical notice. But here our limits allow only the following short notices :

FREDERICK HALL, LL. D., was graduated at Dartmouth College in 1803. In 1805 he was appointed a tutor in this college: and, in 1806, professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, and the first professor in any department in the college. Soon after this appointment, in order to qualify himself the better for his professorship, he went to Europe, and spent some time in London and Paris. After his return, he continued to discharge the duties of his professorship until 1824, when he resigned. He was afterwards employed in various enterprizes, and was for a time a professor in the Episcopal College at Hartford, also president of Mount Hope College in Maryland, and died in 1843.

Rev. OLIVER HULBURD, from Orwell, was graduated at this college in 1806, was tutor from 1808 to 1811, and in the latter year was appointed the first professor of Latin and Greek languages. His health soon declined, so that the same fall he took a journey to Georgia, with the hope that the climate of that state might check an apparent tendency to a pulmonary disease. In the following summer he returned to Middlebury and resumed his duties as professor. But as the succeeding cold season approached, he found

himself unable to endure the severity of this climate, and returned to Georgia. While in that state, he labored in the ministry in Waynesborough until his death in 1814. The estimation in which his talents, scholarship and character were held by those who best knew him, is evinced by his receiving the first appointment at the time of his graduation, and by his successive appointments as tutor and professor.

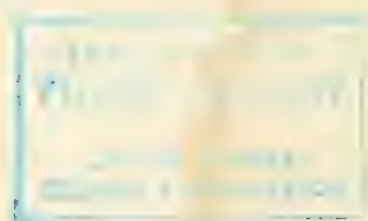
SALOMON M. ALLEN has similar testimony in favor of his character. He was the son of Rev. Mr. Allen, for many years a distinguished clergyman of Pittsfield, Mass. He was graduated at this college in 1813. Sylvester Larned, who was afterwards so much distinguished as a pulpit orator, was from the same town, and was graduated in the same class. After he was withdrawn from William's College, as stated, on account of his "youthful indiscretions and irregularities," he came to Middlebury in company with, and under the qualified guardianship of Allen, who was then a member of this college, and was a judicious, safe and kindly adviser, and who, it was thought, exerted a salutary influence over him. Mr. Allen pursued the study of theology one year at Andover, and officiated as tutor the two following years. In 1816 he was appointed professor of languages, but for one year continued to discharge the duties of tutor. At the commencement in 1817, he entered upon the duties of professor, as successor to Dr. Hoagh, who was transferred to the professorship of theology. On the 23d of the following September, Professor Allen went upon the roof of the then new college building to remedy a defect in a chimney, and while at work there, the scaffolding gave way, and he fell about ten feet to the roof, and was thence precipitated to the ground. The injury was fatal, and he died at 10 o'clock the same evening, at the age of 28 years. We think no event ever spread such sadness over this whole community. He was known and loved by all.

ROBERT B. PATTON, from Philadelphia, was two or three years a member of this college, but removed his relation to Yale College, and was graduated in 1817. In 1818 he was appointed professor of languages in this college, as successor to professor Allen. In 1825 he resigned, and received the appointment of professor in the New York University. He died in 1839.

EDWARD TURNER was educated at Yale College, and afterwards pursued theological studies at Andover. While a member of that institution, in 1823, he was appointed a tutor in this college, and continued in that office two years. At the end of that period he was appointed professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy. While in that office he was married to Sophronia Storrs, a daughter of Col. Seth Storrs, and died in January, 1838, at the age of 41 years. Professor Turner was reserved in his manners and conversation: but was distinguished as a very accurate mathematical and classical scholar.

SOLOMON STODDARD, from Northampton Mass., was elected professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, as successor to Professor Turner in 1838, and the same year was transferred to the Professorship of Latin and Greek Languages, as successor to Professor Hough, who was appointed the first professor of Rhetoric and English Literature. From the resignation of Dr. Bates to the appointment of Dr. Labaree, as president, Professor Stoddard discharged the duties of that office. He was educated at Yale College, and previous to his appointment as professor, he had established a high reputation as a classical scholar. In connection with Mr. Andrews he had published a Latin Grammar, which has been known as "Andrews and Stoddard's Grammar," and has been introduced and used in nearly all the colleges and seminaries in the country. He continued to discharge the duties of his professorship with distinguished ability and reputation until 1847. In that year he showed increasing symptoms of pulmonary disease; and when so much reduced as to be unable to discharge his official duties, he went to Northampton, his native place, where he soon after died.

CHARLES B. ADAMS was a graduate of Amherst College, and was an enthusiastic student of natural history. On the recommendation of Professor Hitchcock, in 1838, he was appointed professor of chemistry and natural history in this college. While occupying that office, Mr. Adams made explorations and collections in different branches of natural history in this county, and spent one winter in the same pursuit in the West Indies. He was also appointed by Gov. Slade, and for two years officiated as state geol-





James Allen Carter

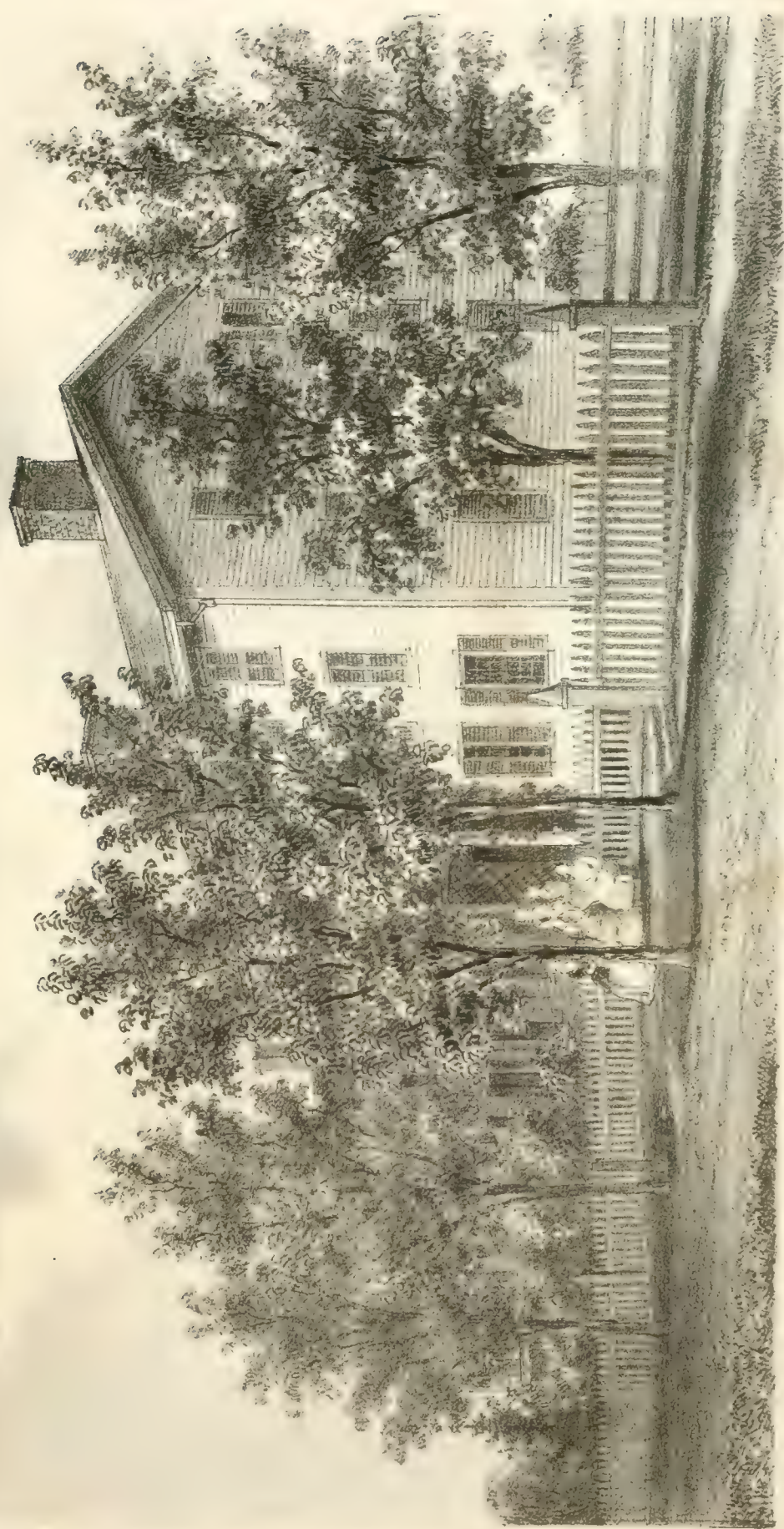
egist. In 1847 he resigned his professorship to accept a similar appointment in Amherst College. While connected with that institution he died in 1853.

Hon. HORACE EATON, in 1848, was elected professor of Chemistry and Natural History, as successor to Mr. Adams. Professor Eaton was graduated at this college in 1825, and during the following year officiated as principal of Addison County Grammar School. In the meantime, he pursued the study of medicine with Dr. J. A. Allen, of this town, and afterwards with Dr. Eaton, of Enosburgh. He also attended the medical lectures at Castleton, and settled in the practice of medicine in Enosburgh in 1828. He continued his practice in that place, except as interrupted by his official duties, until his appointment in this college. In the meantime he filled various important civil offices in the State. He represented the town of Enosburgh in the legislature in 1829, the second year after he commenced practice, and three years afterwards, previous to and including the year 1836. In 1837 he was elected a senator for the county, and again in 1839, and the two following years. He was elected Lieut. Governor of the State in 1843, and the two years succeeding; and in 1846 chief magistrate of the State, and continued in that office two years. In the meantime he was annually chosen, and for four years officiated, as State Superintendent of Common Schools. In 1854 he relinquished his connection with the college, and, so far as his health permitted, continued the practice of medicine, in which he had, previously, among his friends been employed. He died on the 4th of July 1855, at the age of fifty-one years. His remains were taken for interment to Enosburgh, his former residence.

Hon. JAMES MEACHAM was elected in 1846 professor of Rhetoric and English Literature as successor of Rev. Albert Smith, who had resigned that office in 1844. He was born at Rutland, August 10, 1810, and was in early childhood left an orphan, and commenced life as an apprentice in a cabinet maker's shop. By his native talents and energy, with some aid from a discerning and benevolent neighbor, he raised himself to distinction. He was graduated at this college in 1832, and was afterwards successively em-

employed as teacher in an academy at Castleton and St. Albans. In 1836, he was appointed a tutor, in which office he continued two years. Having previously pursued the study of theology at the seminary at Andover, he was settled as pastor of the Congregational church in New Haven in 1838. In this position he remained until his appointment as professor. While discharging the duties of the latter office, with reputation and success, he was elected, in 1849, a representative in Congress, and the year following resigned his professorship. He continued to represent the state, by subsequent elections, until the time of his death; and just before his death had been unanimously nominated by his party for a new election. In the several stations which he had occupied, he did not confine his researches to the subjects more immediately connected with his position, but made himself familiar with general literature and politics. Before his election to Congress he had established a high reputation as a writer and extempore speaker. As a member of Congress he was universally respected. Several of his speeches, which have been published, have secured him an enviable reputation as an orator. His position, as chairman of the committee on the District of Columbia, brought upon him severe and exhausting labor, which, with other duties, made serious inroads on his health, which had before been much impaired. A few days before the close of his last session, finding himself too much enfeebled to discharge his duties there, he left Washington for his home, and on his arrival, said he had come home to die. His prediction, a few days after, was verified. He died on the 23d of August 1856, at the age of forty-six.

This account of Middlebury College, was written two years ago; and the printers had put most of the manuscript beyond our control before it occurred to us that there might have been changes which ought to be noticed. But we find the changes to be not of sufficient importance to be mentioned in this place, except in the college library. President Labaree, while on his recent visit to Europe, purchased in London and Paris, a large number of volumes,—of which 650 are in French. These, with other additions, have increased the library from 5,600, as mentioned above, to about 10,000 volumes.



CHAPTER XXIV.

FEMALE SEMINARY—MISS STRONG—MRS. WILLARD—INCORPORATED
—MISSES MAHEW—MRS. COOK—MISS SWIFT—MR. TILDEN—
DR. LATHROP—S. HITCHCOCK—W. F. BASCOM—MISS GORDON.

ABOUT the time the Grammar School and College were established, and before the incorporation of the latter, the citizens, in order to complete their plans of providing institutions of a higher order for all classes, adopted measures to establish a Female Seminary. No legal corporation was formed to sustain it, but in the spring of 1800, through the agency of Hon. Horatio Seymour, from the same place, and previously acquainted with her, they invited Miss Ida Strong, of Litchfield Conn., who had been educated at the celebrated school of Miss Pierce, in that place, to establish a similar school here. No building or other conveniences had been provided, and she opened her school in the court house. It soon rose to such reputation as to attract pupils from nearly all parts of the state. After a year or two, the school was removed to the north room of Dr. Campbell's house, which had been used for a store. The school had so rapidly increased, that the citizens felt the importance of providing better accommodations for it. In the winter of 1802-3, they formed a voluntary association and made preparation for the erection of a suitable building. Mr. Seymour had appropriated land, as before stated. The stock was divided into shares, a subscription was circulated and the requisite funds raised, and early in the season following the two story building, now occupied by O. Seymour, Esq., for his residence, was completed. The young men from the lawyers' offices, stores and mechanics' shops, were not behind others in their enthusiasm. They were without funds to take stock, but volunteered to build a plank walk across the flat ground in front of the building, where the deep mud ren-

dered it otherwise inaccessible to female or male travellers; and in other ways contributed their labor to promote the enterprise. Mrs. Willard, in a communication, to which we shall again refer, says,—“In the records of female education, it is worthy of notice, that this academy was one of the very first in the country which was built for that special object.”

In this building Miss Strong kept her school in successful operation until her health failed. Pupils were gathered from all parts of the state, and many from the state of New York. When her health was too much impaired to continue her labors, with the hope of improving it, she took a journey to Bennington County to spend a season with some of her former pupils, and other friends. But she continued to decline, and soon after, in October, 1804. at the age of 29 years, she died in the family of one of her pupils in Rupert. Miss Strong was the pioneer of female education in this state: and that she was a woman of no common talents, education and energy, is evinced by her success in establishing a school of so much reputation at so early a period in the settlement of the country. No distinct school for the education of females in the higher branches had been established in this state and very few in the country. The nearest, if not the only, school of that character, to which Vermont females could resort, was Miss Pierce's school at Litchfield, Conn.

There remained a vacancy in the school from the death of Miss Strong, until the summer of 1807. At this time Miss Emma Hart, from Berlin, Conn., was invited by the proprietors to take charge of the school. Although but twenty years of age, she had an established reputation, and had been invited to several other places, but chose to accept the invitation to come here. She continued in charge of the school, with high and increasing reputation, about two years, and on the 10th of August 1809, she was married to Dr. John Willard, then marshall of the District of Vermont, of whom we have before spoken. During the vacancy in the school above mentioned, the Addison County Grammar School was removed to the building belonging to this seminary. The lower story had been divided into rooms and furnished for the accommodation of the ordinary exercises; but the upper story was finished in one room for the

more public exercises. The academy occupied the lower story, and Miss Hart's school was commenced, with thirty-seven pupils, in the upper room. But the male school was removed before the second winter. In the spring of 1814, Mrs. Willard opened a female school at her own residence. At our request, she has furnished us with an interesting communication, from which we quote so far as our limits and the object of this work will allow. Her experience in her schools, her plans and their results, will be best explained in her own words.

“The winter of 1807-8 was one of exceeding hardship for me. Tho' very cold, with frequent storms and much snow, I had to walk from Dr. Tudor's, where I boarded, to the academy, and when there to keep my school in a large long room, formed like an ordinary ball room, occupying the whole upper story, while the only means of gaining warmth was from an open fire, in a small fire place on the north end. Yet that winter I had an increased and very pleasant school. When it was so cold, that we could live no longer, I called all my girls on to the floor, and arranged them two and two, in a long row for a contra dance; and while those who could sing would strike up some stirring tune, I, with one of the girls for a partner, would lead down the dance, and soon have them all in rapid motion. After which we went to our school exercises again. The school had quite an increase in the spring from different parts of the state, and amounted to sixty. Among them, and from the village, was a remarkable band of young maidens, ranging from about twelve to fifteen. I remained in this school two years from the time I commenced.”

After the dissolution of Mrs. Willard's connection with the school by her marriage, Miss Esther North, from Goshen, Conn., was invited, and in October following became the principal. She continued the school for several years, a part of which time she was assisted by Miss Mary North, her sister. Mrs. Phebe Smith, before her marriage Phebe Henderson, of Bennington, and since the wife of Rev. Joel H. Linsley, D. D., of Greenwich, Conn., succeeded Miss North in January 1812. We have not the exact date of the close of Miss North's school, or of Mrs. Smith's. The latter had

charge of the school in the spring of 1814, and probably closed it soon after, as Mrs. Willard commenced her school at her own residence the same season. We quote again from Mrs. Willard.

“It was in the spring of 1814 that I began, at my own residence, the school which I regard as the germ of the Troy Female Seminary. It was there that I devised and wrote that ‘Plan of Female Education,’ which was first printed in the winter of 1818-19, and addressed as a petition to the legislature of New York, and became the basis of an extensive reform in female education. While I was in secrecy describing the institution, which was my *beau idéal* for it, and was diligently considering what name I should give it, I heard Mr. Merrill pray for our “seminaries of learning.” I said, ‘I have it,—I will call it a female seminary.’ That word, while it is high as the highest, is also low as the lowest, and will not create a jealousy, that we mean to intrude upon the province of the men. There are now female seminaries, not only throughout the American Union, but in the islands of the Pacific and in Asia. Many of these have been either directly taught by my pupils, or indirectly by their scholars. As nearly as I can estimate, I have sent out about five hundred teachers.”

“My boarding school at Middlebury attained to so considerable a reputation abroad, that not only did I receive pupils from the first families throughout Vermont, but also a number from New England and New York. In 1816 and 1817, I had five from Waterford, N. Y., among whom was the adopted daughter of Gen. Van Schoonhoven. In 1818, this gentleman being in Middlebury, invited Dr. Willard and myself to remove our establishment to Waterford. Having then my plan of education fully digested and written out, though known only to a few confidential friends, I gave the manuscript into the hands of the General, and with Dr. Willard’s consent, the assurance, that if DeWitt Clinton, then Governor of New York, approved it, and the Waterford gentlemen would bring it before the legislature, we would, on condition we were patronized by that body, remove and commence in Waterford on the plan proposed. Dr. Willard and myself, encouraged by Governor Clinton’s warm approbation and efforts, which, with those of the gentlemen



EMMA WILLARD

Emma Willard



of Watford, were in a measure successful, did remove in 1819 to Watford with our teachers and most of our boarding pupils; thus preserving the identity of the school, which had only an ordinary vacation between its close at Middlebury and its re-opening at Watford. Two years afterwards it was removed to Troy. Now in 1857 it numbers about 330 pupils, and among those may probably be found representatives from every State in the Union, besides some from Canada."

"In a late account of normal schools, made by Mr. Orniston of Upper Canada, he says the first in the United States was founded in 1828, in Massachusetts. This was more than twenty years later than the time when I began specially to prepare pupils for teachers. In Middlebury, Elizabeth Cherrill and Katharine Batty were trained to become teachers in the institution which I was proposing to found, and they were among my first teachers in this state."

After the school was established in Troy, encouraged by a very liberal and unexpected private patronage, but disappointed in the endowment expected from the State, Mrs. Willard says,—“I ceased applying to the legislature, and determined to spread in another manner what I believed an improved system. I then betook myself to the training of teachers. Young women of character and talents I received to board and educate, some of them to clothe and some to pay travelling expenses: when afterwards they went forth, as recommended by me, on application for teachers, to our different states. They went pledged to pay me, when they earned sufficient money by teaching: being however allowed to retain of their earnings sufficient to clothe themselves. In this way I continued to educate and send forth teachers, until 200 had gone from the Troy Seminary before one was educated in any public normal school in the United States. Thus early was my system of female education carried to every part of the country, and the school, which in 1814 was begun in Middlebury, is fairly entitled to the honor of being the first normal school in the United States."

While her school was continued in Middlebury, Mrs. Willard introduced a new system of instruction in geography, which she had partly written out and prepared for publication, and which was af-

terwards published in connection with William C. Goodrich. She says also, "In the school at Middlebury, I commenced teaching Moral Philosophy from Paley's work, Miss Hemenway being my first scholar. There also was taught my first class in Intellectual Philosophy. My text book was the entire work of Locke, and my first pupil was Eliza Henshaw, now Mrs. Badmell." While in Middlebury, she had not introduced the study of Mathematics, "although," she says, "it was in Middlebury, that the stream of lady-mathematics took its rise, which afterwards went out from the Troy Seminary to every part of the Union. I taught drawing myself in both my Middlebury schools. I had a passion for it." "But I felt my deficiency, in not being acquainted with perspective, which I knew was the grammar of drawing. I purchased books of perspective, from which I perceived, that without geometry, perspective must remain to me a dead letter. John Willard, since a judge, for many years, of the Supreme Court in this state, is a nephew of Dr. Willard, and was sent by him to Middlebury College, and boarded with us, I took up his Euclid, when he was from home and was fascinated with the study. Once after he returned, I said to him I was studying it; I had found no difficulty, but would like to see a little whether I understood it as he did. He sat down for about half an hour, and pronounced my learning correct. That was the sole teaching I ever had in geometry, a science which I regard as more than any other the plough share of the mind. I afterwards for years taught the whole of Euclid and trigonometry, with Enfield's Institutes of Natural Philosophy." "If otherwise than as a teacher I have done any good to posterity, for which they will remember me after my decease, Middlebury will be associated with it. My theory of the circulation of the Blood, by means of respiration, now so extensively acknowledged, would never have been formed but for events occurring in Middlebury. After my marriage, Dr. Willard's office of Marshall called him to make long journeys from home. But his old medical library, with Cheselden's Anatomy to begin with, remained at home. He had a passionate attachment for these old authors, and talked to me in their language, and I kindled into his enthusiasm, and prepared myself, much to his

delight, to respond, and to understand what he taught me, and thus I obtained some knowledge of scientific physiology and medical practice as it then stood."

We have indulged our inclination in quoting from the communication of Mrs. Willard farther perhaps than some would justify as a part of the history of Middlebury. But we may be allowed to add, what will be obvious to the reader, that she has been a pioneer in female education in this country, and her incipient plans and efforts were adopted while she was a teacher here. Her influence has not been confined to her own personal instructions or those of the teachers whom she has raised up; but the numerous and popular books, which she has published have tended to the same object.*

After the removal of Mrs. Willard to the State of New York in 1819, no general measures were adopted for the revival of a female seminary until the spring of 1827. In the meantime independent schools for the higher branches were occasionally kept by different females. At the period above mentioned, a new effort was made to revive the school and place it on a more permanent footing. The building, which had been erected, as well as its location, was not satisfactory, and had been given up to the Addison County Grammar School. Besides, it was thought desirable to make it a boarding school. The citizens came together and formed a new association and adopted a constitution and by-laws. The stock was di-

*In Barnard's American Journal of Education for March 1859, is published an article on the "Educational Services of Mrs. Emma Willard," by Prof. Henry Fowler, Rochester University N. Y., extending to more than forty pages. It contains a detail of her labors and success in enlarging the field and improving the system of Female Education. She has, at different times, in various addresses to the public, explained her views of the system she proposed; published very numerous educational books, formed on her new plans of instruction, which have been introduced into the seminaries through the country; educated a multitude of teachers, who, having become familiar with her system, have gone forth every where to introduce it; and finally has established a model school; into whose existence her principles are incorporated; and has by her various labors, established a character,—to use Prof. Foster's language—as a "REPRESENTATIVE WOMAN, who suitably typifies the great movement of the nineteenth century, for the elevation of woman." We cannot do justice to this article without copying the whole, which our limits will not allow.

vided into shares and a new subscription was raised. The association was incorporated by the legislature in October 1827, by the name of the Female School Association. The constitution had provided for "a board of trustees consisting of nine members, elected at the annual meeting, one third of whom shall go out of office at the end of each year." To this board was committed the general superintendence of the school. This and other provisions were sanctioned and legalized by the act of incorporation. In the course of that year the association had purchased the three story building erected by Hon. Daniel Chipman for a law school, and repaired and fitted it for the school boarding house. Misses Ann F. and H. B. Mahew, from Woodstock, were in 1828 employed to take charge of the school. They continued in it about a year. They were succeeded by Mrs. Harriet B. Cook, widow of Milo Cook, Esq. Before her marriage, as early as 1801, Miss Harriet B. Latimer had been invited to come from Middletown, Conn., and open a school at Vergennes. After her marriage, Mr. Cook removed to the State of Georgia, where Mrs. Cook was employed with her husband in teaching. After his death she returned to Vermont, and again opened a school at Vergennes, until she was invited to take charge of the seminary here. Under her administration, the school was in great reputation, and increased to such extent that the room which she occupied in the boarding house was wholly insufficient to accommodate it. The stockholders and others, who took additional stock, early in the year 1830, adopted measures to erect a separate building for the school. The lot then owned by the association did not afford sufficient room to admit the building on the street, and it was erected in the rear of the boarding house. During the administration of Mrs. Cook, Walter R. Gilkey, Esq., then carrying on the business of a saddler and harness maker, as successor of Capt. Justus Foot, had charge of the boarding house. The boarders, as well as the scholars, had so greatly increased that further accommodations were required for them. On a pledge of the future income of the establishment, a few individuals undertook to erect an addition to the boarding house. Toward that object, Dr. William Bass contributed the lot next east of the seminary, on which stood a two

story dwelling house, estimated at \$500; Rufus Wainwright contributed nearly the same amount, and three others from one to three hundred dollars each. The dwelling house on the lot received from Dr. Bass was sold and removed to a lot on the same street, and is now owned by Mr. Powers. The addition at the east end of the boarding house was erected in 1831.

In August, 1834, Mrs. Cook resigned her charge of the school, and afterwards opened a school in Bloomfield, New Jersey. She was succeeded the following year by Miss Nancy Swift, who had been engaged in a school in St. Albans. The school under her administration was continued four years, with similar high reputation and success. Miss Swift resigned, and for several years had charge of a female school in Huntsville, Alabama. A temporary teacher was employed during the winter, and in the spring of 1840 Rev. Lucius L. Tilden, having been dismissed as pastor of the Congregational church in West Rutland, on account of the failure of his health, was appointed and took charge of the seminary as principal, and was assisted by Mrs. Tilden, who had been a teacher in the school before their marriage. They had charge also of the boarding house. In the spring of 1845 Mr. Tilden resigned the charge of the school, and was succeeded in the spring of 1846 by Dr. S. P. Lathrop, who continued in charge of it until the spring of 1849. Dr. Lathrop then resigned to accept the appointment of professor in the new college at Beloit, Wisconsin, and has since died. Under the last two administrations the school sustained its high reputation, but felt the influence of the frequent changes and unsettled state of the institution, and the increasing reputation of neighboring schools.

For the next two years the school was kept in operation with only temporary teachers. In 1851 Mr. S. W. Hitchcock, from Burlington, was employed, and designed to make it his permanent business. In the meantime new measures were adopted to make extensive alterations and repairs of the establishment, which resulted finally in the expenditure of a large sum. At this time the school house was removed to its present position on the street, and fitted up anew. But Mr. Hitchcock was able to continue the school for only about

one year, when his health failed, and he died in the summer of 1852.

Soon after Mr. Hitchcock's death, William F. Bascom, Esq., who had then been engaged for several years as principal of a public seminary at Potsdam, N. Y., was appointed and entered upon the duties as principal. He was assisted by Mrs. Bascom, who had been a teacher in the school previous to their marriage, and by other competent teachers. Under his administration, the number of pupils was large, and the reputation of the school was high. But Mr. Bascom, having in the meantime been admitted to the practice of law, in the fall of 1856, relinquished the school, and the business of instruction, for his new profession. The school was continued through the winter by Miss Eliza Merrill, daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Merrill, an experienced teacher.

In the meantime, the board made an arrangement with Miss Agnes Gordon, who was formerly a resident here in the family of her father, Mr. Joseph Gordon, and is well known as a popular teacher in several states, south as well as north, and appointed her as principal. She assumed the charge both of the school and boarding house, and with other distinguished and competent teachers, opened the school on the 9th of March 1857. From the success, which has so far attended the school under her administration, it is anticipated that she will make it a permanent school of high respectability and usefulness.

The following are the present teachers, and the number will be increased as the necessities of the school shall require.

Miss AGNES GORDON, Principal and Preceptress.

Miss M. J. KNOWLES, Assistant Preceptress.

Miss E. C. LAWRENCE, Teacher of Drawing and Painting.

Prof. A. BOTT, (a distinguished musician and scholar from Germany)
Teacher of Music and German.

For the sake of making the faculties for acquiring an education as accessible as possible to all classes of females, it has been thought necessary to keep the price of tuition and board low. For this purpose the seminary needs a permanent fund of fifteen or twenty thousand dollars, in addition to the present establishment; which, we think, would keep the buildings and furniture in repair, gradually increase

the library and apparatus, and secure a permanent school of a high order. And this sum, or more, we hope some liberal and wealthy individual will soon be induced to contribute to so important an object.

Since the above was written, we learn that the late DAVID NICHOLS of New York, son of the late David Nichols of Middlebury, has made provision by his will for the education of females in his native town, to nearly the amount suggested above. Mr. Nichols was a young gentleman, greatly respected here for his amiable, courteous, and enterprising disposition and character; and in this liberal provision has manifested his characteristic benevolence, and his regard for educational institutions, and the prosperity and happiness of the place where he spent his childhood and youth. Mr. Nichols died at Paris, France, November 27th, 1852, at the age of thirty-five years. His remains were subsequently interred at Middlebury.

CHAPTER XXV.

ECCLESIASTICAL—EARLY LAWS FOR SUPPORTING THE GOSPEL—CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY—PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN—EPISCOPAL SOCIETY—METHODIST SOCIETY—BAPTIST SOCIETY—CATHOLIC SOCIETY.

THE doctrines respecting religious liberty and toleration, and the relations of "Church and State," which prevailed in the States, from which the immigrants came, were imported and established here. The liberty of worshiping the Supreme Being according to one's own convictions, was not denied, nor was any one forced to worship contrary to his convictions. Religion was regarded as essential to the highest interests of the state, and therefore it was considered right for the government to require all the citizens to pay their proportion of taxes for its support, to some ecclesiastical organization. The contribution of each must therefore be paid to the existing organization, unless he belonged to some other, to which he contributed.

The following are the main provisions of the law existing in this state from the organization of the town until the year 1801. "When any number of the inhabitants of the town or parish, exceeding twenty-five, being of a similar sect or denomination of Christians, shall think themselves able to build a meeting house," and otherwise provide for the support of the gospel, a town meeting was to be called, and two thirds of those assembled, being not less than twenty-five, were authorized to provide for erecting a meeting house and "hire or otherwise agree with a minister to officiate as a minister" of the inhabitants; and to assess the necessary taxes to defray the expenses. And it was further provided, that every voter in town "shall be considered as being of the religious opinion and sentiment of such society, and liable to be taxed for the purposes aforesaid, unless he shall procure a certificate, signed by some minister of

the gospel, deacon, elder, moderator or clerk of the church, congregation, sect or denomination, to which he belongs," making "known the person procuring the same to be of the religious opinion or sentiment of the signer thereof, and to what sect or denomination he belongs." This certificate was to be recorded in the town clerk's office.

The Congregational was almost the only denomination known to the first immigrants, and was at first almost the only one established in this state. It was established in this town as the "standing order," taxes were assessed for its support and ministers settled by vote in town meeting, as other town business. The support of the gospel in that denomination constituted an important share of the business of those meetings, its history is a part of the history of the town, and is therefore extended beyond the limits, which would otherwise be assigned to it.

There had been, as elsewhere stated, religious meetings to some extent, and occasional preaching in town before any action in town meetings. At the annual meeting in March 1788, two years after the organization of the town, and the first meeting, when any business was done except the appointment of a few officers, the following votes were passed :

" Voted to choose a committee to stick a stake for the meeting house and pitch on a place or places to bury the dead."

" Voted, That Mr. Daniel Foot's house be a place to meet for public worship for the present."

" Voted Daniel Foot, Benjamin Smalley, Abraham Kirby and Nathaniel Munger be a committee to procure preaching for the present year."

January 1, 1789, " Voted that the town be divided into two district societies." " Voted, that the committee, that was appointed last March, hire preaching for three months, as they, in their wisdom, shall think proper." March 2, 1789, " Voted that we will try to procure preaching for the ensuing year. Voted that we will raise a tax of three pence on the pound to be paid in wheat at 5s per bushel. Voted that Benjamin Smalley, Abraham Kirby and Jonathan Chipman be a committee for the purpose of procuring

some suitable person to preach in the town on probation for a settlement. Voted that we will meet one half of the time at the north end of the town, and the other half at the south end of the town on Sundays for public worship. Voted that Capt. Stephen Goodrich's house for the north end and Mr. Bill Thayer's for the south end for to meet at, at present. Voted to reconsider the vote passed last town meeting concerning dividing the town."

July, 1789, "Voted that the committee try to hire Mr. Parmelee, on probation five Sabbaths more, when he comes back. Voted to re-consider the former vote that was passed, to meet one half the time at the north end and the other half at the south end of the town for public worship, and that we will meet at Mr. Daniel Foot's for said purpose."

February 8, 1790, "Voted to have the Rev. Mr. Parmelee to preach for the term of six months on probation, if the situation of his family is such that they can be removed by sleighing, otherwise for three months in the town of Middlebury."

March 11, 1790. Meeting warned "to see if they will raise a tax to pay Mr. Parmelee for preaching in said town for the space of six or three months." "Voted Samuel Miller, Esq., Moderator, and tried to get a vote for the above purpose, and it passed in the negative."

At a meeting April 12, 1790, notified, among other business, "4thly, to see if the town will agree to hire the Rev. Mr. Barnett to preach on probation, or some other person." "Voted Samuel Miller, Esq., moderator of said meeting. Voted to appoint a committee to procure preaching for the present year. Voted Joshua Hyde, John Deming and John Chipman, Esq., to be a committee for the above purpose. Voted that we raise a tax of three pence on the pound, to be raised on the list of the present year 1790, and paid in grain by the first day of October next,—there being two thirds in the affirmative, and those two thirds consisted of more than twenty-five legal voters. Voted that wheat be paid at 5s and corn at 3s per bushel, and other grain equivalent on said tax. Voted not to act on the 4th article in the warning."

At a meeting June 2, 1790 warned "to deliberate on the subject

of hiring or settling Rev. Mr. Barnett as their minister, and choose a committee to treat with him, if necessary," it was "voted to choose a committee of three to treat with Mr. Barnett. Voted Gamaliel Painter Esq., Capt. Stephen Goodrich and Joshua Hyde a committee for said purpose."

June 15, 1790. "Voted to give the Rev. Mr. Barnett fifty pounds L. money per year as a salary to commence at his settlement. The above vote carried by more than two thirds of the meeting, and those two thirds consisted of more than twenty-five legal voters."

The result of these proceedings was, that the Rev. John Barnett was ordained as pastor of the church and society on the 11th of November 1790. In anticipation of his ordination, a Congregational church was organized on the 5th day of September previous, and adopted as their "articles of faith" the doctrines which are common in the Calvinistic Congregational churches in New England. The following persons composed the church at its organization: Daniel Foot, Elijah Buttolph, Moses Hale, Bethuel Goodrich, Abraham Kirby, Ebenezer Sumner, Simon Farr, Prudence Preston, Silence Goodrich, Abigail Foot, Sarah Farr and Deborah Buttolph.

March 1791. "Voted that the selectmen for the present year be a committee to treat with Rev. Mr. Barnett and agree with him on some certain price, at which he will receive grain in payment of his salary."

March 1793. "Voted to hold meetings in future in Mr. Ebenezer Sumner's barn till such times as he shall fill it with hay."

December 30, 1794, at a meeting held at John Foot's, "The vote was called for the tax of 25 in addition to Mr. Barnett's salary and carried in the negative."

At a meeting at the same place January 1795, "Voted Mr. Barnett a dismission agreeably to the warning."

A committee was afterwards appointed to confer with Mr. Barnett respecting his dismission or continuance as a minister;" but the result of the proceedings was that he was dismissed March 31, 1795. The controversy, which had existed in the town, in relation

to the place of holding meetings and the location of the meeting house, which we have referred to elsewhere, had extended to the church, and was the principal occasion for the dismissal of their pastor. Whether he took any part in the controversy does not appear; but it rendered his position very unpleasant. It will be recollected, that the town had voted to hold religious meetings at Mr. Mattocks' in the village for the time being, with such conditions as to future meetings, as rendered it hopeless, that they would ever build a house of worship or again hold their meetings permanently in the centre of the town. Some of the members of the church, as well as others in that neighborhood, refused to attend the meetings. This led to a course of discipline, and several members were excluded or suspended; but most of them afterwards returned, and were received by the church. Dr. Merrill says, "Mr. Barnett resided in town nearly two years after his dismissal, he was chosen moderator of the church and preached as a supply. After several removals he died at Dorham N. Y. December 5, 1837, at the advanced age of eighty-four."

After Mr. Barnett left, measures were adopted from time to time to sustain the preaching of the gospel, and various clergymen were employed temporarily. The expenses were principally paid by taxes voted by the town, but some times by subscription. In December 1798, some measures were adopted by the town toward extending an invitation to Mr. Mason to become the permanent pastor; and in August 1799, similar measures were adopted in relation to Mr. Thomas Robbins; but neither resulted in effecting the object. Mr. Robbins was son of Rev. Dr. Robbins of Norfolk Conn., from under whose preaching the Mungers and other settlers had removed, was then a young man, and now Rev. Dr. Robbins of Hartford. Soon after Mr. Robbins left, Rev. Jeremiah Atwater preached for the society two or three years, while acting as principal of Addison County Grammar School, and president of the college. Rev. Roswell Shurtliff, afterwards professor in Dartmouth College, and Rev. Moses Stewart, afterwards professor in the Andover Theological Seminary, supplied the pulpit for a time, and each received a call to settle as pastor, but both declined. Rev. Dr. Merrill and Rev.

Walter Chapin, then officiating as tutors in Middlebury College, jointly supplied the pulpit, for several months, commencing in March 1805.

The meeting held July 1, 1799, was notified as other town meetings were, but the business proposed and acted on related only to the ecclesiastical affairs of the town. For the first time the officers were chosen for the management of such business. Such continued to be the practice until the alteration of the law in 1807. And from this time those who assembled for that purpose were denominated a "society," and sometimes "The first Congregational Society," and in one case, "The Religious Society consisting of the Town of Middlebury." The town clerk was also chosen and officiated as the society's clerk; their meetings were sometimes held at the same time or an hour before the town meetings, and the records of both were for some years kept in the same book. After the completion of the court house in 1798, the meetings for business and for public worship were held in that building.

On the 3d of November 1801, the legislature altered the law "for the support of the gospel," and instead of a certificate signed by some church officer that the person belonged to some other denomination, required only a certificate signed by himself in the following form: "I do not agree in religious opinion with a majority of the inhabitants of this town." This, being lodged with the town clerk for record, discharged the person signing it from all connection with the society, and exempted him from all future taxes in it. Previous to this few persons had lodged the required certificate; for few belonged to any other denomination. But there were many, who thought themselves oppressed by being forced to pay taxes for the support of an institution, of which they did not approve. Within two months after the alteration of the law, not less than forty-three persons, liable to pay taxes, had released themselves and within three years about thirty more.

In December 1801, incipient measures were adopted toward the erection of a church building, the location was fixed on the corner where the Methodist chapel now stands, then owned by Daniel Chipman, and a tax laid to defray the expense of the erection. It

was in anticipation of this measure, that so large a number had lodged their certificates. As the meeting house was not erected for several years, it is possible, that this diminution of the society might have had some influence in delaying its erection; but there were other sufficient causes of the delay, and the object was undoubtedly more satisfactorily accomplished, than it would have been under the old law. In this country at least, the support of religious institutions is rather encumbered than aided by unwilling contributors. Many who lodged certificates afterwards voluntarily returned and united with the society, and became members of the church.

The location of the church was several times changed, and at length the present site was settled on, the land was purchased of Laudon Case, who then owned it, and removed the house then standing on it to the north part of the lot, where it is now occupied by Dr. Charles L. Allen. The difficulty of fixing on the location did not arise from any difference of interest, convenience or opinion in the members of the society, but from a change of the general taste and judgment. At a meeting in August 1805, it had been decided, "that the expense of building the house shall be defrayed by a public sale of the pews;" a committee of seven, including Judge Painter was appointed "to draw a plan of a meeting house, and expose the pews for sale by public auction," twenty per cent to be paid in money, "and the remainder in neat cattle or materials for building."

After the location was finally settled, the committee proceeded to make the necessary arrangements, and Judge Painter acting as the agent for that purpose, contracted with Mr. Lavius Fillmore, an experienced architect to erect and complete the building. The building was commenced in the spring of 1806, and the frame was put up and covered, so that, with temporary seats, the legislature assembled in it to hear the election sermon that fall; but the house was not completed until the spring of 1809. It was dedicated on the 31st of May of that year. The sermon was preached by Rev. Heman Ball of Rutland. The expense of the building, we think, was between seven and eight thousand dollars,—about half what it

would cost now. The house when completed was regarded as not inferior to any one in the state, and its steeple,—135 feet in height,—is still admired for the beauty of its proportions. The pews or slips were circular, having the pulpit for the centre of the circle, so that the whole audience, in their natural position, faced the speaker. With a few alterations, in lowering the pulpit and otherwise, and necessary repairs, the house was used until the summer of 1854. In the meantime the society, by the individual contribution of pews and money, had obtained the ownership of about two thirds of the slips on the lower floor, the rent of which had been appropriated to meet the expenses of the society.

Previous to the season above mentioned, arrangements had been, for some months, maturing for a thorough repair and alteration of the house to make it conform to the more modern style of such buildings. The society had decided on the alterations to be made, and several gentleman, belonging to the society proposed to complete them, under the direction of the society's committee, and purchase the remaining pews owned by individuals on their own responsibility, with the right to compensate themselves from the sale of the pews on the lower floor. This proposition was accepted. Under this contract the following alterations and repairs were made. The whole interior of the building was torn out, except the frame of the gallery; the floor was raised two feet, together with the timbers under it; two chimneys were built at the north end for the smoke from the furnaces; the front of the gallery was lowered eight inches, and the stairways and entrances to the gallery rebuilt; the pulpit was remodelled, and the lower floor and gallery re-seated, with four aisles below, instead of three as before; the west and north walls, which supported the building were taken down and rebuilt, and the earth, under and on the west side of the church, reduced about five feet, and a handsome and convenient lecture room, forty five by thirty-six feet, built in the basement, and furnaces placed in the basement for warming the house above.

The expense of these alterations, with some exterior repairs, and the purchase of pews belonging to individuals, was somewhat more than seven thousand dollars,—about the sum of the original

cost of the building. Pews were sold to nearly the amount of this sum in one day, subject to a ground rent, which will amount to about five hundred dollars annually. Several families, which had not before been connected with the society, secured pews. The house was dedicated anew on the 5th day of February, 1855, and sermons were preached during the day and evening by Rev. R. S. Kendall, the pastor, Rev. Dr. Labaree and Rev. Professor Boardman.

We return to the general history of the society, the date of which we have anticipated. On the 15th of August, 1805,—the day on which the final measures for erecting the church originally were adopted,—an invitation was extended to Mr. Thomas A. Merrill to become their pastor, and he was ordained as such on the 19th of December, 1805. Rev. Asa Burton, with whom Mr. Merrill had pursued his theological studies, preached the sermon on the occasion.

Mr. Merrill was graduated at Dartmouth College in 1801, and had officiated as tutor in that institution before he came here. He continued to perform the duties of pastor until the 19th of October, 1842, when he presented a request to be released wholly from pastoral duties; agreeing, in that case, to relinquish his salary; and this proposition was accepted by the church. He afterwards preached occasionally in other places, and for several of his last years, as long as his health permitted, he supplied the destitute church in Weybridge. He had been for some time afflicted with a disease of the heart, of which he died on the 29th day of April, 1855. He had a reputation for talents of a high order, and at the commencement of Middlebury College in 1837, the corporation conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. During his ministry, the society and church of which he was pastor greatly prospered, and large additions, from time to time, were made to each. By his connection with all the ecclesiastical bodies of the Congregational denomination, and with the important benevolent associations in the state, and by his punctual attendance and active labors in them, he exerted an extensive influence among the clergy and churches, which was highly appreciated.*

*Rev. Josiah Goodhue, late pastor of the church in Shoreham, soon after Dr. Merrill's death, published a valuable memoir of his life; and Dr. Sprague, in his



Thomas A. Merrill,



After Dr. Merrill was released from his pastoral duties, the pulpit was temporarily supplied by different clergymen. In the spring of 1844, Mr. Samuel G. Coe, of Greenwich, Conn., son of Rev. Noah Coe, of that place, preached several weeks for the society, and the society and church severally invited him to become their pastor. He accepted the invitation, and was ordained on the 17th day of July, 1844. Rev. Dr. Bacon, of New Haven, Conn., preached the ordination sermon. Mr. Coe was dismissed, at his own request, on the 30th of October, 1850, and has since been the pastor of a church in Danbury, Conn.

On the 14th day of April, 1853, Rev. R. S. Kendall, late professor in Illinois College, on the invitation of the church and society, was installed pastor. He continued to discharge the duties of that office until his ill health compelled him to request a release from them, and he was dismissed on the 4th day of June, 1856.

For another year the society was left destitute of a settled pastor, and supplied with preaching by several different clergymen. In the spring of 1857, they extended an invitation to Rev. James T. Hyde, the present pastor, who had been for a year or two supplying the pulpit of Rev. Dr. Bushnell, in Hartford, in his absence in California. The invitation was accepted, and Mr. Hyde was installed pastor of the church and society on the 10th day of June, 1857. Rev. Dr. Bushnell preached the sermon on the occasion.

On the 24th of October, 1807, the legislature repealed all the existing laws for the support of the gospel, except such as invested voluntary associations with corporate powers, and legalized all contracts voluntarily made for that purpose. Since that time the support of the gospel has been left entirely on the voluntary system. This society was immediately called together, and agreed to form an association, under the law which remained, and as their constitution and articles of association, adopted the provisions of the law which had been repealed, by signing this agreement and articles of association, each person became a member. The new society voted to

“Annals of the American Pulpit,” has given a sketch of his life and character; which supercede more particular details here.

assume the rights and obligations of that which had been dissolved.

Many persons were alarmed lest this sudden withdrawal of legislative aid should undermine all religious institutions, and dissolve the relations of pastors and churches. But no such devastation occurred in the Congregational Society. The church building, which was in the process of erection, proceeded vigorously to its completion, and the pastor, who had been but a short time settled, remained as firmly settled as before. And we heard of no place where any serious injury occurred. It opened the way for the more convenient establishment of other denominations, which soon sprung up, and, without doubt, by giving each man the right of selection, more persons are enlisted in the aid of religious institutions. Notwithstanding the multitudes who have connected themselves with other associations, the Congregational society has been more prosperous than it would have been under the old law.

The entire destruction of the records on the 22d of February, 1852, left no evidence of the proceedings of the society since 1805, when they began to be kept separately from the records of the town, nor of the persons who constituted the association, or of the terms and conditions on which it was formed. The society was therefore called together for the purpose of renewing their compact and articles of association, as far as practicable, so as to constitute themselves a continuation of the former society, with the same rights and obligations. At the meeting called for that purpose on the 31st of March, 1852, they adopted a compact, with rules and conditions somewhat more particular, but such generally as had been from time to time voted by the society. In order to avoid all appearance of constraint, one article is, that any person may at any time discharge himself from his connection with the association, and from all obligations he had assumed. The business has progressed precisely as before the destruction of the records.

The numbers of the society and of the church have varied at different times. While there have been accessions from time to time, the numbers in both have been greatly diminished by removals and deaths, especially in the agricultural districts. Dr. Merrill, while pastor, from 1806 to 1842,—each year ending June 1,—kept a

list of the additions to the church, and the deaths and dismissals to other churches, and the remaining members; as did the succeeding pastors generally. June 1, 1806, the number of members was 197. From this period the number annually increased until 1817, when the number was 428. From that time to 1840,—we have not before correct data of later years,—the smallest number, 404, was in 1820; and the largest number, 781, in 1836. In 1840, the last of these years, it was 515. During the period which soon followed, while the church had no settled pastor, or the pastors were frequently changed, the number, by reason of deaths and removals, declined. It appears by a record of Rev. Mr. Kendall in 1853, that the number was 358, some of whom were absent members,—as was the case in other years,—and, among them, 19 clergymen. Since the installation of the present pastor, Rev. James T. Hyde, in June 1857, 84 have been added, and many have died or been dismissed, leaving the number in June 1859 about four hundred.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH.

The following history has been furnished, at our request, by Rev. W. T. Webbe, rector of St. Stephen's Church in Middlebury.

The history of St. Stephens Church and of the Society to which it belongs, can only now be given with that brevity and incompleteness that results from deriving the knowledge that we possess from dry records of past recurrences, and not from the recollection, from the memory of an eye witness, or an actor in the scene. All of the individuals prominent in the establishment of this Parish, have gone from among us. The very meagre statements of business meetings, never very accurately kept, and the indefinite allusion to circumstances perhaps deemed unnecessary or unworthy of very much minuteness of detail, is all that can be relied upon as the materials for this sketch. No attempt will be made to do more than condense the principal circumstances in order as they have occurred, leaving the real history of the Society confessedly unwritten. Many circumstances in the early efforts made to obtain clergymen, and many matters that to the worshippers in this church, scattered all

over the land, would be of the greatest possible interest, must go unnoticed, unrecorded.

The Society was organized December 5th, 1810, under the name of the "First Episcopal Society in Addison County," according to an act passed October 20th, 1797, entitled "An act for the support of the Gospel." Horatio Seymour, Joel Doolittle, George Cleveland, Wm. B. Sumner, John A. Sumner, Isaac Landon, Sam. Clark, John Alexander, D. Henshaw, William Kellogg, Joseph Brackett, Luther Barnard, Daniel Chipman, Lavius Fillmore, John Willard, Lewis Stearns, Eben W. Judd, Stephen Weston, Roger Haskill, Sam' S. Phelps, Robert Holley, Jun., Chas' P. Harris, Dorastus Wooster, Jonathan Hagar, Alfred B. Allen, Josh' Burks, Albert P. Heath, Sam' H. Holley, Ozias Seymour, George Chipman, John Chipman, Joseph Hough, Chas' Linsley, N. Wood, James McDonald, Robt' B. Bates, Edwd' Tudor, Calvin C. Walker, G. C. Loomis, J. W. Stephens, were among the earliest numbers of the Society, but how many of them identified themselves with it at the first meeting is not known.

Services were held, and arrangements made with clergymen who visited the village occasionally, supplied for a season the wants of the people until 1811, when a resident Minister was secured. Public Worship at first was held in the Court-House. Then a room belonging to the late Judge Seymour was placed at the disposal of the Society, which was used for many years. At length a building belonging to Mr. Daniel Henshaw, was fitted up for the exclusive purpose of Public Worship, and continued to be so used until the present edifice known as St. Stephen's Church was erected. The first steps towards this important improvement in the condition and welfare of the Society, appear to have been taken as early as 1825.*

*An unsuccessful effort had been made in 1816. A committee was appointed, measures were taken to raise the necessary funds, and a resolution was passed April 21st 1817, directing certain steps to be taken "for building a church on the ground purchased by George Cleveland, agreeable to the plan submitted by Eben W. Judd," and a committee of five was appointed to superintend the building of the church. The records fail to indicate the reason why this design was never carried into effect.

The following resolution appears in the minutes of the proceedings of the Society passed July 11th, in that year.

“Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to enquire where will be the most eligible place in which to erect a Church, and what will be the probable expense of obtaining the same. Messrs. Horatio Seymour, Eben Judd, Joseph Hough, George Cleveland, Nathan Wood, Lavius Fillmore, James McDonald were appointed the said Committee.” In the month of July, this Committee made a verbal report, and a resolution was adopted “to examine into the expediency of soliciting aid from abroad to build a Church.” The Rev. B. B. Smith, Hon. Horatio Seymour and Danl’ Chipman were appointed the Committee for this purpose. At this meeting Col. S. S. Phelps was added to the Committee, formerly raised on the subject of a site. It was further resolved that the Committee inquire “on what terms the lot of Mr. Van Ness, Mr. Wainwright’s, Mr. Henshaw’s and Judge Doolittle’s lots can be obtained, and whether liberty would be granted to build a Church on the Common, &c.”

There is no record of the result of the labors and investigations of these Committees; but in August, a Committee of five was appointed to “make a plan of a Church, with an estimate of the probable expense of building on the site selected by the Committee appointed by the Town of Middlebury for that purpose.” In September, the Committee already named, was appointed to ascertain what sums can be obtained to erect a Church on the spot located by a Committee of the town, and the same persons were to be considered as the Building Committee, and are directed to proceed in the erection of the building, with as much expedition as the case will admit of.

There is no further record as to the completion of the erection, or as to the time of the Consecration of the building. This, as we learn from other sources, took place on the 14th day of September, 1827. The names of the individuals who have been regularly settled in the village as officiating Ministers, are the Rev. P. Adams, from 1811 to 1814. The Rev. S. S. Safford, from 1814 to 1816. The Rev. George Leonard, a part of the year, 1817. Rev. B. B. Smith,

1823 to 1828. Rev. S. A. Crane, 1831 to 1835. Rev. S. R. Crane, 1835 to 1837. Rev. W. H. Hoyt, 1837, to 1838. Rev. J. W. Diller, 1838 to 1842. The Rev. Jedidiah Huntington, 1842 to 1843. Rev. Joseph F. Philips, 1843 to 1847. The Rev. Mr. Hickox, of Westport, N. Y., supplied the parish with occasional services during the year 1849. Rev. Mr. Mulchahey, 1849 to 1854. Rev. W. T. Webbe, elected by the Vestry on the 4th of June 1854, and Instituted to that office on the 4th of July 1855, is the present Rector.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

(BY REV. B. M. HALL.)

THE exact date of the introduction of Methodism into Middlebury is not known. The published Minutes of the Conference mention the name of the town, as designating a circuit, in 1810, for the first time. But there was Methodist preaching here much earlier; and there is reason to believe that a *Society* had been formed several years anterior to that date.

There is now living in this village, an aged member of the church, who assures the writer that she came here with her husband in 1804, and found both Methodists and Methodist preaching at that date.

Rev. Ebenezer Washburn was one of the early ministers who travelled in Western Vermont; and was on the Vergennes Circuit in 1801. In 1842, he published in the *Christian Advocate and Journal*, a series of letters, containing reminiscences of his early itinerancy. In those letters the following paragraph occurs:

“At Middlebury I found a small and persecuted class. Our preaching was at the house of Lebbeus Harris; and in the midst of that village our average congregation was from twenty-five to thirty. Mr. and Mrs. Harris were deeply pious, and ready to greet the preacher with joy at his coming, and to render him every service and accommodation to make him comfortable and happy while he stayed.”

Mr. Washburn was, in that year, (1801) appointed to Brandon Circuit, which was then newly organized, and composed of the

southern part of Vergennes Circuit, which had extended far south of Brandon.

Lebbeus Harris and his wife, who are mentioned above, were converted in the spring of 1801; the same year in which Mr. Washburn came upon the circuit and found a small class. A record of their conversion was made by Mr. Harris, and preserved in his Old Pocket Book, now in the possession of his son, Dr. Harris, of this place. It is as follows :

"Middlebury, April 21, 1801. This day Sally Harris made a profession of Religion."

"Middlebury, May 18, 1801: This day Lebbeus Harris made a profession of Religion."

On the back of the paper are these words: "Old things are done away, and all things are become new."

Taking into account the above facts and dates, we shall be safe in believing that a Society has existed here almost from the organizing of the Circuit in 1798.

The first preacher appointed to Vergennes Circuit was Joseph Mitchell, who is described as "a man of extraordinary natural powers;—a shrewd, witty, energetic and overwhelming preacher."

Mr. Mitchell was admitted into the travelling connection in 1794 and located in 1804.

The next preacher was Joseph Sawyer. He was in charge of several important places, including the Presiding Eldership of Upper Canada District, during four years. He also retired from the itinerancy, after having travelled thirteen years; and of his later life there is no record.

In 1800 Henry Ryan was Pastor of this charge. This was his first appointment, after which he served in Fletcher, Plattsburgh, Bay Quintie, (Canada) Long Point and Niagara Circuits. He was Presiding Elder of both Upper and Lower Canada Districts in succession: also of Bay Quintie District, and Missionary to the Chipeway Indians in Canada. After laboring twenty-five years, he became a Superannuate in Canada.

Mr. Ryan was a man of vast size and strength, and utterly fearless in the presence of those "lewd fellows of the baser sort," who

sometimes delighted in making disturbance in Methodist meetings, and mal-treating Methodist preachers. More than one such fellow has taken counsel of that *discretion* which "is the better part of valor," and retired before this "son of thunder."

Ebenezer Washburn, the first whose name is associated, particularly, with that of Middlebury, was a man who lived long, labored much, and died well. In his letters we find the following, which refers to his labors on this Circuit. :

"Here too, I was compelled to be a man of contention. If I presented Christ to the people as having tasted death for every man, that was strenuously opposed by the doctrine of partial atonement. If I called upon sinners to repent and believe the Gospel, I was told that a sinner could not repent until he was converted. If I preached the knowledge of sin forgiven, that was wild and dangerous fanaticism."

Speaking of the trials which he endured on this circuit, Mr. Washburn says;

"I have had stones and snow balls cast at me in volleys. I have had great dogs sent after me, to frighten my horse, as I was peacefully passing through small villages. But I was never harmed by any of them. I have been saluted with the sound of 'Glory, hoshanna, amen, hallelujah'; mixed with oaths and profanity. If I turned my horse, to ride toward them, they would show their want of confidence, both in their master, and in themselves, by fleeing like base cowards."

In 1802, Elijah Chichester was the preacher. He was one of the strong men of the times; and had he made preaching the business of his life, would have risen to the high places in Zion. But having travelled about eight years, he located, and entered into mercantile business in the city of Troy. In later years he removed to Lansingburgh, and continued in the same business until the infirmities of age admonished him to rest. He entered into his *final* rest a few years since, at Lansingburgh, and the writer of this preached his funeral sermon.

William Anson next appears in this field of labor, but of his toils, or success here, we have no account. The old members who were

living but a few years since, and, whose memories would have gone back to those times, are gone from us. By consulting the Minutes of the Conference, we find that the numbers in Society increased during his year from 227 to 268,—a very fair per centage.

Mr. Anson was a faithful and competent minister. In all his relations, on Circuits, in Stations, and as Presiding Elder, he showed "all good fidelity." On account of impaired health, he sought retirement on his farm in Saratoga Co., N. Y., in 1823. There he remained until 1848, when he died in great peace, respected and beloved.

In 1804 James M. Smith travelled this Circuit. Of him but little is known at this late date. That he was a man of good talents is evinced by the grade of his appointments. The largest villages in the Conference, in connection with New York City, shared his labors.

Samuel Cochrane was on the circuit in 1805. All that can be learned of him, is, that he served the cause well in places of importance and responsibility, until 1842, when he was returned superannuated. He was living in 1846—"old and full of days."

Samuel Draper was one of the strong men of his day, and he came to this field in 1806. He was admitted into the travelling connection in 1801, and died in 1824. His "record is on high," and his memory is yet fragrant among the preachers of olden time. As Presiding Elder on Champlain, and Ashgrove Districts, each four years; he was faithful, efficient, and beloved. His "works do follow" him.

Next came Dexter Bates, whose connection with the travelling ministry was brief; he located in 1809. He was followed by Andrew McKean. This was a good man and a good preacher. But like many in those days, he found the labors too severe for his physical powers; and after some years of useful toil, was obliged to retire from active service. Taking his place with the worn-out members of the conference, he took up his residence on his farm in Saratoga Co., N. Y., where he still resides.

This closes the *first period* of the history of Methodism in this immediate vicinity. It is, in some sense, the *traditional* period;

for though the published Minutes of the Conference are preserved, and we there find the *stations of the preachers*, and some statistical information; yet there is but little of the kind that is needed for the “filling up.” There are no *details*, except such as are laid up in the memories of the ancients, and some fragments in the scanty reminiscences of aged ministers who have written, now and then, for the weekly press.

Middlebury first gave its name to a circuit, or station, in 1810, and Phineas Peck was the first resident Pastor. The appointment probably became a Station, in contradistinction from a Circuit, at this date. How many were in Society at this time, cannot be known, for heretofore the numbers for the whole circuit were reported in gross. But at the end of Mr. Peck's first, and also of his second year, there were sixty members reported.

Mr. Peck is remembered by some who yet live, and is represented as a man of sound sense, sterling integrity, and good preaching talents. It is said that he was once Chaplain to the State Legislature. In Dr. Bangs' History of the M. E. Church, there is a list of names of all the preachers who have joined the Travelling Connection—of the time of joining—of deaths—of withdrawals—or expulsions, as the case may be—with the date of each. From that list it appears that Mr. Peck died in 1835; but at what place, is not known.*

In the spring of 1813, Samuel Howe was stationed in Middlebury: and also again in 1816—remaining but one year each time. It was during his first year that the first Chapel was erected. It was a humble structure; yet it was, doubtless, much better than the “loft” in which they had worshipped since leaving the house of Lebbeus Harris. Besides, it was their own, and erected specifically

*The preaching place at this time, was an “upper room” in what is now called Seymour's Block, at the north end of the Bridge. It was about this time that two men from the “father-land,” who were Methodists, arrived in town, and the next day being the Sabbath, they walked out, in order to see if a Methodist Meeting could be found. Seeing no house which appeared like a Chapel, they began to despair, when the sound of Praise was heard issuing from a private house; and after listening to the words and music, they said to each other; “There is a Methodist Class-Meeting;” and they both wept for joy! They entered, and found a happy introduction to Methodism in the New World.

for the worship of God; and the Saviour, whose birth-place was emphatically humble, did not disdain to be with those who were gathered in His name.

We have no report of numbers at the end of Mr. Howe's first year; but judging from what the writer knows of the man, he is confident that the Gospel was faithfully proclaimed, and the Church edified—and doubtless, some souls were converted.

Mr. Howe became an itinerant in 1801, and labored diligently until 1831, when his impaired health rendered it necessary for him to take a superannuated relation.

On the 16, Feb. 1858, he went to Troy to attend the funeral of an aged and esteemed member of the Church. After the sermon, which was preached by another, Mr. Howe made a few remarks, and closed by saying: "I have entered my 78th year, and expect soon to follow the deceased, and hope to meet him in heaven." He immediately retired to one of the Class-Rooms in the basement—sat down in a chair, and expired before the procession had left the Church!

"How many fall as sudden;—not so safe!"

The next in the regular succession of Pastors, was Cyprian H. Gridley, who remained two years. We have no report of numbers at the end of his first year, but at the close of the second there were 100 members. He was stationed here again in 1818; and in 1820 he was compelled by ill health to take a superannuated relation, which continued for twenty-four years, during all which time he resided in Middlebury.

In 1844 he became effective, and travelled until 1850, when he once more retired from the open field. He is now, (1859,) residing at Appleton, Wisconsin; with some of his children. Mr. Gridley joined the itinerant band when it was feeble in all this region, and "endured hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ," so long as his health would permit.

The many in this place who remember him, will call to mind his small, but wiry frame—and quick elastic step; and also his mighty prayers and moving exhortations. In these exercises he had few equals. When he was young in the ministry, it was supposed by many, even in the moral and orderly Village of Middlebury,

that it was neither unlawful nor dishonorable, to disturb Methodist meetings, or mal-treat Methodist Ministers! Mr. Gridley has many interesting recollection in this department of experience. On many occasions he was followed from evening meetings, by savage *hootings*, and assailed by dangerous missiles! On one occasion his window was broken in the night, and a large and heavy *file* was thrown into his house and found sticking in the wall above the bed on which he lay at the time of the assault! He facetiously remarked, that he thought that the devil was about to retire from business, as he had begun to distribute his *tools*.

Now, why was Methodism so violently persecuted? Any other ism, no matter how erroneous or fanatical, could have shown itself in the same place, and made its proselytes without *such* opposition. I leave the answer to such as are responsible.

As before-stated, Samuel Howe was here for the second time in 1816. This was a year of trial, and many were distressed for food. It was called "The cold season," and at the end of the Conference year I find the following entry in the Book of Records.

N. B.	This year, paid P. Elder, H. Stead, in all	\$23.00
.. Rev. S. Howe,	256.00

\$279.00

"Cheap enough for the pure Gospel; we hope to do better next year. As this was a severe season in these northern parts, some were destitute of a morsel of bread; and surely, both ministers and people must have suffered. But, O, that there may never be a famine of the pure gospel word of grace!"*

In the spring of 1817, the church was favored with the ministrations of Buell Goodsell. This able minister, has occupied prominent positions among his brethren, and yet lives to enjoy their respect and affection. in the New York East Conference.

James Youngs was stationed here in 1819-1820. He was a

*The New York Conference held its session here in June 1817. At that time the whole number of preachers in the Conference was ninety-four. Since that time the Conference has been divided into three—all numbering about five hundred preachers. Bishop George was the presiding officer, "A mighty man of God."

man of social habits, kindly feelings, and catholic spirit; and was influential in bringing in a better state of feeling among Christians: dispensing with that bigotry so often seen in those days—so unlovely and injurious to all.

He was an able minister, and his mind was well stored, and well disciplined; a scholar, a Christian, and a Divine.

Next in order was Ebenezer Brown,—a minister of rare talents, sound mind, deep thought, and popular address. Under his labors the Chapel proved too small—"the place was too strait," and the house was enlarged. Still, a portion of the "Old-fashioned Methodists" were not quite pleased with the preacher. He was not *loud* enough for them, though sufficiently so to be heard with the greatest distinctness and ease in all parts of the house.

Besides, he had a fashion of tying his white cravat in a *double-bow*, in front; and moreover, his hair stood up in front, instead of lying smoothly down on his forehead! When *libored* with for this last offence, his explanation was, that he had a "Cow-lick" on one side of his forehead, and his hair on that side stubbornly refused to comply with the *usage*, and he chose to allow the other side to keep it company!

Notwithstanding these faults, Mr. Brown was quite successful, and the membership increased about fifty per cent during his year of service. He left the itinerancy in 1825, and entered into business in the city of Troy.

In 1822 Noah Levings was appointed to this station, where he remained but one year. He was young as a minister at that date, and had not arrived at the maturity which he reached in later years. Starting from the *anvil* in the city of Troy, soon after reaching his majority, and with but a limited English education, he won his way to the "high places in Zion." He was studious and quick to learn, and his literary attainments became very respectable.

He was never one of the most profound—but one of the most popular preachers:—he was *eloquent* in the best sense of the word. His address was pleasing, his manner easy, his heart warm, his doctrine pure, and his voice like æolian music!

Having served the churches in the cities of Troy, Schenectady

and Albany, some of them more than one term, he was transferred to New York, and stationed at Vestry Street. While there he was elected Financial Secretary of the American Bible Society, which office he held until the close of his useful life. While stationed in Schenectady, he received the Degree of D. D., from Union College.

In the Fall of 1848 he left New York, intending to visit large portions of the South West in behalf of the Bible Society; and while in that region, in the midst of the Cholera, which then prevailed, he was attacked with disease which he knew was alarming; and he hastened toward home by way of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers. Having reached Cincinnati he could proceed no further, and at the house of his former friend and Brother, Mr. Burton, with no member of his family present, he "entered into rest," on the 9th day of January, 1849. He died like the good and happy Minister—expressing his unshaken faith in that Gospel, and Saviour which he had so long preached to others.

During his ministry of *thirty years*, he officiated in eighteen Circuits and stations,—preached about four thousand times—dedicated thirty-eight churches—delivered sixty-five miscellaneous addresses—two hundred and seventy-three addresses in behalf of the Bible Society,—and travelled more than thirty-six thousand miles! Surely, he exhibited the "signs of an Apostle."

John J. Matthias had charge of this church in 1823, for one year only. He was, at one time, in the early history of Colonization, the Governor of the Colony of Liberia, in Africa; and is now a prominent member of the New York East Conference.

Robert Seeney followed Mr. Matthias. He is reported as one of the best Pastors ever stationed in this place—one who performed the greatest amount of visiting in a strictly pastoral manner. In preaching, he is said to have greatly excelled; being full of thought, easy in manner, and rapid and graceful in elocution. On Sabbath mornings he would be in great distress through nervous excitement—feeling as if he could not possibly preach, and giving illustrations of *motion* without *progress*; for he would hurry from room to room, in his efforts to prepare for going to church, and yet if his wife did

not follow, and put him in order by piece-meal, he was likely to go with half-adjusted apparel and hair unkempt !

John B. Stratton became the pastor in 1825. He was received into the travelling connection fifty-eight years ago, and is still hale and strong. After having occupied important posts in the ministry, and discharging his duties with the greatest fidelity, he is enjoying a green old age in the office of Presiding Elder on Burlington District, in which this town is included. As he is in our midst, it may not be proper to say more ; except that, as he has been one of our ablest men, we hope that his robust health and unabated vigor may continue to the church his services for years to come.

John Clark was pastor in 1826-7. He was admitted in 1822, and having made good use of his time and means, became an able minister. He was favored with considerable revival, and saw the membership increased during his administration from 126 to 182. Though not quite thirty-one years old when his term expired here, yet he was made Presiding Elder of Plattsburgh District, and showed himself an accomplished and efficient officer in that capacity. He was next appointed to New York City, where he served one year, and then offered himself as a missionary to Green Bay.

In that field he continued five years, having charge of all our missions and schools among the Indians in the whole North West. His labors were extreme, and often perilous. His travels were extensive, reaching from Green Bay and Sault de Ste. Marie, to Mackinaw,—and westward to the Mississippi River. The country was then a vast wilderness, and the modes of travel—by canoes and portages, both slow and toilsome.

On leaving the Indian work, he spent a few years as Presiding Elder in northern Illinois, and then volunteered for Texas. In going to that country, he took the over-land route, *via* St. Louis, with his own horses and wagon, taking his wife and child with him. In that journey they slept under their own tent *twenty-one* nights before reaching their destination !

After three years passed in that region, the health of his family required his return ; and in 1844 he again became a member of this Conference. Having remained with us eight years, he took a trans-

fer to Rock River Conference, and was stationed at Clark street, Chicago. He had nearly finished his two years there when he was smitten with cholera, and died in great peace, July 11, 1854.

John C. Green succeeded Mr. Clark in this station in 1828. Of him there is not much to be said.

Jarvis Z. Nichols was next in order. He is still in the vineyard, in the New York Conference.

He was succeeded by Peter C. Oakley, who also is a member of the same Conference;—a man of sweet spirit, pleasing manners and good talents.

Charles P. Clarke came to this place in 1833, and was stationed here again in 1844, remaining but a year at each time. He was quite successful the first time,—increasing the membership from 200 to 307. He went south the year after his last labors here, and his locality is not known. He joined the Protestant E. Church, and we have lost his address.

Merritt Bates came next in order, and was an efficient and successful laborer, and the church was increased in numbers and edified. He is still in this Conference.

In 1836 Joseph Ayres became the pastor for one year, and again in 1841, for two years. There was a great revival during his last term, and the numbers went up to 451! He is now preaching in Northern Ohio.

After his first term came John (now Dr.) Frazer, who preached here in 1837-8. It was during his term that the present House of worship was erected. It is 45 feet in width, and 69 in length; having a basement with a Lecture Room 30 by 45 feet, and four classrooms: and is surmounted by a belfry and beautiful spire. Mr. Frazer has since been transferred to Ohio, where he is still in the ministry.

A. M. Osborn was appointed here in 1839, and tarried but one year. He is now a member of New York Conference, and wears the title of D. D.*

*The Troy annual Conference, which was organized in 1832, met in Middlebury in 1840. Bishop Roberts presided—a white-haired, apostolic looking old man, who preached on the Sabbath, with great effect. He has since been called to his reward in the higher Kingdom.

Cyrus Prindle was the next incumbent, and served two years. He soon after seceded from the Church, and joined the "American Wesleyan Church."

In 1847, Elijah B. Hubbard was the pastor. It was a year of deep and sore trial to him, for he was prostrated by painful and lingering disease, and his excellent wife was taken away by death! These afflictions gave his nervous system a shock from which he never fully recovered; and he died at Fort Edward, N. Y., April 22, 1852.*

Lester Janes preached in this place in 1848. He has since taken up his abode in the West, where he has been employed alternately in preaching and teaching.

B. O. Mecker was the next Pastor, and served this people in 1849-50. The numbers were considerably increased under his labors. He is still a member of this Conference.

He was followed by his brother, Hiram Meeker, who was the Pastor for two years. At the end of that time he became supernumerary, and continues to reside here, engaged in the practice of medicine.

The next incumbent was Robert Fox, who tarried but one year, and was succeeded by Peter M. Hitecock. Here this minister, also, buried his wife after a long and painful illness!

H. C. H. Dudley was appointed to this charge in 1855; and after spending about three-fourths of the year, he joined the Protestant E. Church, and is gone—we know not where.

The next in order was J. F. Yates, who labored here two years. During his last year there was a large revival, which increased the number to 290. During that year the House of worship was thor-

*Mr. Hubbard was the victim of a useless, if not *cruel* custom which prevails in many places. He had preached a *funeral sermon* in a school-house, which was densely crowded, and extremely warm. He then rode some distance in an open sleigh, though the day was cold and the wind harsh. There he stayed until the grave was filled, and then rode back. By this time he was thoroughly chilled; and a pulmonary disease followed which baffled the skill of physicians and the power of medicine. How many other ministers have been sacrificed on that altar of cruel custom!

oughly repaired and modernized, and made one of the best in the denomination in Western Vermont.

Mr. Yates was succeeded by B. M. Hall, who is still, (August, 1859) the Pastor. The annual Conference was again entertained in this village in the spring of 1858—Bishop Ames presiding, and “winning golden opinions from all sorts of men.”

By a careful examination of the oldest Records which are preserved, I find the following names, as in *Full Connection*, in 1809, viz :

Lebbeus Harris,	Azuba Babcock,
Sarah Harris,	Sarah Weaver,
Daniel Bigelow,	Amelia Farnsworth,
Betsey T. Bigelow,	Chester Haskins,
Abel Knights,	Huldah Fisher,
Nathan Alden, Local Pr.,	Josiah Johnson,
Barbary Alden,	Joseph Johnson,
Thomas Carpenter, Local Pr.,	Anna Johnson.
Aurelia Carpenter,	

How long these had been members, is not known. But it is evident that a Class had previously existed.—(See Mr. Washburn's statement on a former page.) Besides, there is a long list of names placed “On Trial,” at the same date, 1809, showing that those not then on *trial*, were the *original* members.

There were *forty-five* admitted on trial in that year ; which made the whole number in society sixty-two. Among those who composed that little band, just fifty years ago, there are but few now living ; and fewer still who are in connection with Methodism in Middlebury.

Of those who were in Full Connection in 1809, Betsey T. Bigelow is the only representative. She is still here, in good standing in the church, and looking for a re-union with the others in the world above.

Of all who joined on trial in 1809, Althea Demming alone survives among us. And of those admitted in 1810, Joel Boardman is the sole survivor ! What changes are wrought by the lapse of time ! Among those who identified themselves with this branch of

the Church in its infancy, several will be long remembered for their attachment and devotion to the cause.

Of such, mention may be made of Lebbeus Harris, Daniel Biglow and their wives, David and Clark Dickinson, John and Hastings Warren, Jonathan Barlow, Luther Hagar, and others.

From this Society there have gone out at least *three* Ministers of the Gospel, who are doing good service within the bounds of the Troy Conference:—Albert Champlin, Alfred A. Farr, and Chester F. Burdick:—While the sons and daughters of this church are its representatives in many places and states.

This church, like most others, has had a varied experience—sometimes passing through waves of trial, and again exulting in hope of that heavenly rest where

“Not a wave of trouble” rolls.

At times it has been “minished and brought low,” by reason of numerous *removals*, and other causes;—and again, it has been favored with powerful revivals—so that “the wilderness and the solitary places have been made glad for them, and the desert has blossomed as the rose.”

Its present position is such as will insure success in the future, if it will only be true to itself and its Master. May this, and every true church of Christ, “grow into a holy temple in the Lord.”

The following Table exhibits the numbers in Society in each year since Middlebury became a separate station.

DATE.	NO.	DATE.	NO.	DATE.	NO.	DATE.	NO.
1809	62	1820	100	1834	244	1842	213
1810		1821	114	1832	215	1843	451
1811		1822	166	1833	200	1844	274
1813	60	1823	149	1834	307	1845	246
1812	60	1824	142	1835	221	1846	246
1814		1825	118	1836	284	1847	240
1815	100	1826	126	1837	296	1848	220
1816	100	1827	139	1838	295	1849	191
1817	97	1828	182	1839	272	1850	185
1818	79	1829	243	1840	245	1851	240
1819	83	1830	237	1841	218	1852	183

DATE.	NO.	DATE.	NO.	DATE.	NO.	DATE.	NO.
1853	171	1855	174	1857	155	1859	280
1854	147	1856	160	1858	290		

BAPTIST CHURCH.

For many years there was a respectable Baptist Church and Society, generally supplied with regular preaching, and the usual ordinances of religion. But for ten or twelve years past, their members have been so much reduced by removals and deaths, that the organization has ceased, and the remaining members attend upon the worship of the other churches. We have no means of obtaining a correct account of its history, except from the following, copied from Dr. Merrill's History, published in 1841.

“By Rev. Arnold Kingsbury, pastor of the Baptist Church.

The church was constituted Dec. 10, 1809. First pastor Rev. Nathaniel Kendrick from 1810 to 1817; second Rev. Isaac Backlund from 1818 to 1820. Since the last date the church has been destitute, a portion of the time and has enjoyed the labors of the following pastors, viz: brothers Ewens, Spaulding, Mott, Green, Haff, A. Jones, W. G. Johnson and A. Kingsbury. The church generally attended public worship in the Court House, till 1838, when they procured the meeting house, 65 feet by 32, which they now occupy. The present number of members in the church is 66.”

CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The following account has been furnished, at our request, by Mr. Timothy O'Flanagan.

The first Missionary Catholic Priest, that came to this town was the Rev. James MacQuaide in 1822. He left here the following year and we had none here until 1830, when the Rev. Jeremiah O. Callaghan came, as a Missionary of the whole State—coming here occasionally—until 1834: Then the State was made into two missions, and the Rev. James Walsh came on this part of the mission and left in 1835. In 1837, Rev. John B. Daley came here and built the present brick church, which is 60 feet by 40, in 1839; and remained on the mission until 1854. Then the first and

present Catholic Bishop of this Diocese, the Right Rev. Lewis Goesbriand, sent the Rev. Joseph Duglue, who is here now. The number of hearers is about 400, and the number of communicants 300. Some of these are from the adjacent towns. As to church membership, any person, no matter wherefrom, who confesses and receives the eucharist, is a member of the Catholic Church, in any part of the world.

T. O. F.

CHAPTER XXVI.

INCIDENTS OF THE WAR OF 1812.

AT the time of the declaration of war by our government against Great Britain, in June, 1812, party spirit had risen, between the Federalists and Republicans, to a state of greater asperity than has since been known, in consequence of the measures which had been adopted, in defence of the country, against the encroachments of the British and French, then at war. After the declaration of war, the friends of the administration felt bound to co-operate with and sustain them in every measure deemed necessary for its successful prosecution. The Federalists, who were opposed to the declaration of war, as being, as they alleged, unnecessary, impolitic and not tending to any hopeful result, felt no disposition to co-operate or aid in the prosecution, beyond the "letter of the law." The principal difference between the parties arose from their different construction of the power given by the constitution to the General Government over the militia of the several states. We have said so much in explanation of what may follow. But it is our business not to express any opinion as to their differences; but to confine ourselves to such occurrences as had some connection with incidents and proceedings in Middlebury. There being no records of those occurrences to which we can appeal, we are obliged to rely much on the recollection of the few survivors who remain; which, after nearly fifty years, are of course rather confused and contradictory. For many of the facts depending on recollection, we are indebted to Ozias Seymour, Esq.

Soon after the declaration of war, in June, 1812, in pursuance of the act of Congress authorizing the President to call on the different states for detachments of militia, to the number of 100,000

men, a brigade, consisting of four regiments, was called for from Vermont, under General Orms, of West Haven, and ordered into actual service, and was concentrated at Burlington. The men composing the brigade were designated by drafts, except when volunteers offered themselves. There were, at the time, five or six young gentlemen studying law in the office of Hon. Horatio Seymour, all of whom, as well as their instructor, were friends of the administration, and rather zealous supporters of the war; and, for that reason, the office was honored with the designation of the "War Office." Four or five of these were enrolled in the standing militia company, then under the command, we think, of Capt. Joseph D. Huntington. The company consisted of seventy or eighty non-commissioned officers and privates, and about thirteen were to be taken from the number. When the company was paraded for the draft, the officers called for volunteers, and suggested the expectation that the young gentlemen who were so zealous for the war,—referring particularly to the law students,—would have patriotism enough to volunteer. But none offered themselves. When the officers retired to make the draft, and returned to announce the result, it appeared that, among others, the following law students were drafted,—Hon. Zimri Howe, of Castleton; the late Hon. Samuel S. Phelps, of Middlebury; Walter Sheldon, Esq., and the late John Kellogg, Esq., of Benson. They complained that there had not been a fair draft; that they had been selected instead of being drafted; and consulted Mr. Seymour on the subject. He inquired whether they had any evidence of unfairness. When they replied that they had no available evidence, he advised them to shoulder their muskets and go to the war. Judge Howe was soon appointed Secretary to Gen. Orms: Judge Phelps, after serving some time in the ranks, received from Mr. Madison the appointment of paymaster: Walter Sheldon, before the troops were called into service, was appointed a Lieutenant, and served as district paymaster in the regular service. But Kellogg declined any promotion, and preferred to carry his musket in the ranks, which he did during the term for which the brigade was ordered into service.

About the 10th of April, 1814, it was reported and understood that a part of the British fleet was seen off Cumberland Head, and their

design was supposed to be to attack and burn the American fleet in Otter Creek, in and near Vergennes. On the request of Gen. Wilkinson, of the United States army, Gov. Chittenden, of Vermont, immediately issued an order, by a messenger, to Col. Sumner, of Middlebury, commander of a regiment in this County, to call out his regiment, and forthwith to march them *en masse* to Vergennes for the protection of the fleet. At the time, there were few, if any, United States troops at that place. Three of the companies of the regiment belonged to Middlebury; viz. a company of Light Infantry, commanded by Capt. Samuel H. Holley; a company of Cavalry, commanded by Capt. John Hacket, and the standing or Flood Wood company, then under the command of Lieut. Justus Foot—the Captain being for some reason absent. The order was received by them on Monday, the 11th, or on Tuesday, the 12th of April, and promptly obeyed. The companies were ready to march as early as the middle of the afternoon of the day on which the order was received. Lieut. Foot's company was, about that time, paraded on the common, and was dismissed under the order to meet at eight o'clock the next morning on the hill just south of Vergennes. A large part of the company, having left their ranks, were immediately on their way to the place of rendezvous the next morning, each one looking out for himself a place to lodge, during the leisure hours he might have, in reaching the place of meeting at 8 o'clock in the morning. Capt. Allen, (who came into town only a week before, a stranger to nearly all the company, and wholly without equipments or other preparation,) and a few others, started too late to reach the place at the appointed time, and found the company quartered in a barn at Vergennes.

Hon. Joel Doolittle was then adjutant of the regiment, and Hon. Samuel S. Phelps had an appointment in the staff. Soon after the regiment reached Vergennes, Gen. Dunton, of Bristol, who commanded the brigade to which the regiment belonged, appeared and claimed the command. This claim was resisted by Col. Sumner, and an animated and somewhat amusing *war of words* ensued between the general and colonel, which was the most decidedly belligerent display the regiment was called on to witness.

Lieut. Foot was a Federalist, and being jealous of the rights of his company, became disaffected by the movements made in the organization of the troops, and refused to have his company mustered under the proposed arrangements. Their operations were therefore kept separate and independent of the other companies; and, on Saturday, the 16th, he gave a furlough to each of his men, under an order to be in readiness to return when called for.*

The report, which occasioned the alarm, on the occasion referred to, turned out to be erroneous. No British fleet or signs of present danger appeared. Accordingly Governor Chittenden, who was at Vergennes, in consultation with Commodore Mac Donough,

*Mr. Seymour's recollection of what he then and afterwards understood, is, that the ground of Foot's disaffection was, that he was unwilling to have his company mustered into service under United States officers. This at the time was a mooted question. Nahum Parker, Esq., who was a member of the company, agrees with Mr. Seymour in his recollection. Capt. Ira Allen, also a member of the company, states, as his recollection, that Foot objected only to the derangement of his company, by dividing it, and mixing it with others, to make it conform, in its organization, to that of the United States army; that he was willing the vacancy in the office of captain should be filled by another person, but claimed the right to act as lieutenant of his own company, as it was ordered into the service. On the third day, Capt. Allen and a few others, who had no guns and could get none, were dismissed, and returned home. On Saturday, as Allen learned from Foot, he received some official communication, in which he was recognized as commander of the company which he brought there, and he took the liberty, as their commander, to give them a furlough until further orders. The same night, after his return home, Foot received an order from Col. Sumner, to return, and he went himself, the next morning, without his men, and while there he and his men were discharged, as the other companies afterwards were, under an order to return when called for.

Mr. Lorin Fillmore, also a member of the company, whose recollection is more minute and definite, states, in addition, that many of the companies were small, and when counted off into full companies, there were many supernumerary officers, who were left out of the service, and among them Lieut. Foot; and a captain and lieutenant were appointed over his men from other towns. When this was reported to the company, and the new officers appeared to take the command, they unanimously decided not to submit to that organization: That on Thursday, Foot and his company marched out of the city, and were followed by the Colonel, Adjutant, and some other officers, who addressed them, and gave them encouragement that the organization should be altered; and thereupon the company returned to their quarters in the barn. But no alteration was made, and on Saturday furloughs were given to the company, as above stated. He also states that the militia mustered into the service were commanded and drilled by United States officers.

on the 19th of April issued a general order to Col. Sumner, in which he states, that the Commodore "will be competent to protect the flotilla under his command, after he shall get the gallies now on the stocks afloat;" and directs the Colonel, "in the event of the gallies being launched to permit the militia under his command to return to their homes, except Capt. William C. Munson's company from Pantou, who will remain until further orders;" and that the troops were to be held "in complete readiness to march on the shortest notice, without further orders, to meet any invasion the enemy may attempt." On the 20th of April he issued another order, stating that he had agreed with the Commodore "on an alarm signal of three heavy guns, to be fired in rapid succession, in case of attack by the enemy," and giving the Colonel permission "to furlough the officers and soldiers, (Capt. Munson's company excepted) until further orders." On the 22d of the same month he issued a third general order to the Colonel, stating that he "has received intelligence, that a regiment of the United States army at Plattsburgh had been ordered to proceed to Vergennes, for the defence of the naval force;" and says—"Col. Sumner will therefore on the arrival of these troops, proceed to discharge the whole detachment under his command." We learn from a man who belonged to that corps of United States troops, that on their arrival, which was about four days after the date of the order, the militia were dismissed. Mr. Seymour relates the following, as what he understood at the time. A few hours before the troops were relieved, Col. Sumner called his officers to a council of war, to determine what should be done. Commodore MacDonough was invited to be present and express his opinion. The Commodore, in reply to their inquiry, said, in substance,—“Gentlemen, I am willing to compromise this matter with you. If you will take your militia home, I will take care of the fleet. I am vastly more in danger from your men, than from the enemy.” The occasion of this pleasantry, on the part of MacDonough, is said to have been, that one of the militia men, in a room occupied as a guard house, directly under the Commodore, accidentally discharged his musket, which sent its contents through MacDonough's floor, passing near his person, as he sat at his table. The

result of the council was, that the regiment had leave to return to their homes, on an indefinite furlough, under orders to be in readiness to return at a moment's warning.

In the month of May following, a British fleet, consisting of a brig, three sloops and thirteen galleys, came up the lake from St. Johns, passed Burlington on the 12th, and appeared before Fort Cassin, at the mouth of the Creek, and opened a spirited fire upon that fort, with a view of forcing their way up the Creek, and destroying the American shipping before it should be ready for service. After exchanging a few shots with the fort, they retreated and returned to Canada. On the proposed signal, or other notice, some of the militia on furlough, nearest to Fort Cassin, especially in Addison, returned and aided in the defence.

In the fore part of September, 1814, Governor Provost, of Canada, invaded the territory of the United States at the head of 14,000 troops, marching towards Plattsburgh. On the 6th of that month, a small reconnoitering party of regular American troops and militia met the advance guard of the British army, and had a skirmish with them, in which several of the Americans were killed, and, it is said, some British. The bodies of the Americans were left, and remained above ground until after the retreat of the British army, and were buried by the American volunteers on the 12th. An alarm was spread through the surrounding country, and a general rally followed. As soon as the citizens heard that the soil of their country was defiled by the tread of an invading foe, all party distinctions and all constitutional scruples were laid aside, and all parties rallied to the rescue. Messengers were sent into all parts of this State and New York to give the alarm. A very inadequate force of regular troops,—a single brigade,—under General Macomb, was stationed at Plattsburgh,—the main army having moved westward.

On the 4th of September, Gen. Macomb wrote to Hon. Martin Chittenden, Governor of Vermont, giving notice of the near approach of the enemy, and said—"Much is at stake at this place, and aid is actually wanted, as the garrison is small, and the enemy in considerable force. Under these circumstances, your excellency, I am sure, will not hesitate to afford us all the assistance in your power." Gov-

ernor Chittenden, on the same day, replied,—“ I shall take the most effectual measure to furnish such number of volunteers as may be induced to turn out for your assistance.” On the same day also, he enclosed a copy of Gen. Macomb’s letter to Gen. Newell, of Charlotte, commander of the brigade in that neighborhood, “ which,” he says, “ will show you the situation of our army at Plattsburgh, and the necessity of such assistance as can be afforded. I would recommend it to you to take the most effectual method to procure such number of volunteers as may be had for his immediate assistance, from your brigade.” Col. Fassett, of the United States army, on the 7th of September, wrote to Gov. Chittenden, saying—“ I learn by Mr. Wadsworth that there is a considerable quantity of fixed ammunition at Vergennes, subject to your order. Can I have a part of it for the volunteers? Please inform me by my son.” To which Gov. Chittenden replied the same day—“ If there is any (fixed ammunition) subject to my order, this letter may be considered a sufficient order for such part of the same as may be wanted.”

In every town in this section the standard was raised and the citizens gathered around it. The volunteers in the several towns were not generally organized, and did not meet together until they met at Burlington, where they were detained for a passage across the lake, or on the battle-field. When a smaller or larger squad had collected, they started forward, leaving the more dilatory to follow. In this town, Gen. Warren made the first direct effort to raise volunteers. As early as Tuesday or Wednesday—the 6th or 7th of Sept.,—he came on to the village common, followed by martial music, and invited all who were so disposed, to join him as volunteers. After marching once or twice around the common, forty or fifty men had fallen into the ranks, and the number was afterwards increased. When a dozen or two were ready to start with him, they marched for the field of battle, and others, as fast as they were ready, followed.

The patriotism on the occasion was not confined to the volunteers. The panic was universal. Those who were left behind exhibited their zeal by liberal contributions. The volunteers wanted ammunition, provisions and teams to transport them to Burlington, where vessels were engaged to convey them to the scene of conflict. A subscrip-

tion was accordingly circulated, in the hand-writing of Hon. Horatio Seymour, in the following words, and subscribed by the persons whose names follow :

Middlebury, September, 1814.

“ We, the subscribers, promise to pay Daniel Chipman, Ira Stewart and Jonathan Hagar the sums annexed to our names respectively, to be appropriated by the said Daniel, Ira and Jonathan, as a committee, in providing those who shall turn out to defend the country against the invasion, at the present alarm, with ammunition, arms, and other necessities, and in their discretion to give pecuniary aid to such as shall turn out, who are needy, or their families.

Horatio Seymour	\$30,00	Joel Doohittle	\$10,00	Haskall & Brooks	\$10,00
Eben W. Judd	20,00	Peter Starr	10,00	Thomas Hagar	10,00
Milo Cook	10,00	W. G. Hooker	10,00	Lavius Fillmore	10,00
Jonathan Hagar	30,00	Elisha Brewster	5,00	Luther Hagar	5,00
Ira Stewart	30,00	Samuel Mattocks	5,00	Moses Leonard	5,00
Daniel Chipman	30 00	David Page, Jr.	35,00	William Slade, Jr.	5,00
S. S. Phelps	5,00				

\$275,00

The money thus provided was paid out for powder, bullets, bread and other provisions, and teams to convey the volunteers on their way. And one of the charges to this fund was—“ One quarter cask of powder, which was used on Monday, 12th September, for rejoicing, \$11.” The whole sum expended, however, was only \$203,50 ; and the payments on the subscriptions were reduced in proportion.

Other men, and the boys had also an opportunity to exhibit their patriotism. While the volunteers were making their preparations to start for the field of battle,—including the night before the detachment commenced their march,—the men and boys were engaged, at the office of Mr. Seymour, in making the powder into cartridges for the volunteers. Fearing to have a light in the room during the night, the floor, where the powder was, had become literally blackened by the powder which scattered over it in filling the cartridges. After there was sufficient morning light to discern the situation of the room, some one present said,—“ We have certainly been in more danger here to-night than any of our volunteers will be in at Plattsburgh.”

When a sufficient number of volunteers had met together, they organized as they could, in a summary and uncereemonious way, by

putting forward such prominent men as were willing, to be officers. And when new recruits came on, they took their places as they could in the ranks. Gen. Warren and his men, and many others, did not reach the camp-ground until the evening of Saturday, the day before the battle, and some not until the next morning; and others wholly lost their chance in the battle by arriving after it was over.

To General Samuel Strong, of Vergennes, father of the present Samuel P. Strong, was assigned the position of Commander-in-Chief of the Vermont Volunteers. Major Lyman, of Vergennes, was his right hand man, and was appointed Colonel. He had had some experience in the Revolutionary War. Gen. Warren was first chosen Captain of the Middlebury volunteers, but was afterwards advanced to the rank of Major.* Capt. Silas Wright, of Weybridge, as captain, commanded the volunteers of that town and Cornwall; and after the promotion of Gen. Warren, the Middlebury men fell into his and other companies, as they were most needed. Jehial Saxton, of Bristol, was Captain, and Daniel Collins, of Monkton, Lieutenant of the troops from those towns; and John Morton, of Salisbury, was Captain of the troops of that town. Dr. Zaccheus Bass, of Middlebury, went on with Gen. Warren as surgeon of the volunteers of Middlebury and neighboring towns; and was employed in the hospital on Crab Island, in the care of the wounded, after the battle.

In this extemporaneous gathering and organization, it is difficult, at this late day, to ascertain who were present, or how a great majority of them were employed. Mr. Daniel Wright, of Weybridge, who was serving in the battle as orderly sergeant, states that James Riley, of that town, in the rear of his right hand man, was wounded in the neck by a musket ball, and died of the wound after he returned

*We have spoken, in its proper place, of General Hastings Warren only as an early settler and man of business, and having an important connection with our history. We take occasion of the mention of the patriotic part he bore, as a volunteer, in the defence of his country, to add that he was, in addition to his distinguished military position, a respectable, useful and influential citizen for many years. Of a very interesting family of children, only two survive,—Mrs. Jane Ripley, wife of William Y. Ripley, Esq., of Rutland, and Edward S. Warren, Esq., of Buffalo, who was graduated at Middlebury College in 1833. Gen. Warren died at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Ripley, in May, 1845.



Hastings Warren



home. He was also near Bethuel Goodrich, of Middlebury, who was wounded in his foot, and saw Dr. Bullard, of Weybridge,—who was in the battle, surgeon as well as soldier, and equipped for either service,—extract the ball. The wound was not serious. We are not aware that any others of the Vermont volunteers suffered seriously in the battle. Major Lyman, after his return, was seized with a violent fever, contracted in the service, and died greatly lamented. And we believe there were others attacked with similar fevers.

The volunteers were more accustomed to hunting wild animals than fighting men; and while they secured themselves as they could behind trees and other protecting objects, they were careful to take aim at individuals of the enemy, and killed and wounded many of them. After the battle, a number of British prisoners taken by the volunteers were collected together, and the man, who appeared to be most prominent among them, was inquired of as to his experience in war. He mentioned, in reply, several battles in which he had been engaged, and said that he had never been in one half equal to this; that these green-sprig men,—the Vermont Volunteers, who wore green sprigs in their hats,—would hide themselves behind the trees, aim at individuals, and hit every man aimed at; and that their army called it murder.

We are not able to state the number of Volunteers from the several towns. The number from Middlebury, we judge, from the estimate of different persons, to be from 150 to 200.

In the midst of the excitement, we were compelled to follow the example of other patriotic citizens,—not to fight, for we had no talent for that. We reached Burlington on the afternoon of Thursday the 8th of June. There we found Hon. Martin Chittenden, Governor of Vermont, and General Samuel Strong, Commander in Chief of the Vermont volunteers, in consultation on the approaching crisis. The writer then held the position of Secretary to the Governor and Council. In that capacity, we were admitted to a familiar intercourse with both these important personages. The volunteers were flocking in and filling up the town; but there were no means of conveying them, that night, to the field of their anticipated exploits. But a vessel was to be ready the next morning,

the 9th, to convey over the General and such of the troops as the vessel could carry. We, of course, were to accompany the General in the same vessel, with the Governor's military aid. To bring us into more immediate communication with the Commander of the army at Plattsburgh, and the better to ascertain the condition, perils and necessities of the small body of the American troops there, the General sent by us the following letter addressed to Gen. Macomb.

“ Burlington, September 11, (a misprint for 9.) 1814.

Sir :—The bearers, Amos W. Barnum Esq., my military Aid, and Samuel Swift Esq., Secretary to the Governor and Council of this State, will go to Plattsburgh, for the purpose, if practicable, of communicating with you, and of receiving any information you may please to communicate, that we may know how to govern ourselves, in endeavoring to furnish assistance. They will communicate to me any necessary information you may give them for this purpose. I am with high consideration your humble servant,

General Macomb.

MARTIN CHITTENDEN.”

The next morning all hands were early awake, and soon we were making our way to the wharf, where the vessel lay. The Governor accompanied us, with as much apparent enthusiasm, as the most patriotic Green Mountain Boy, and said to us, as we were leaving, with emphasis,—“I wish my position would allow me to go with you.”

We reached Plattsburgh the same afternoon, and accompanied Gen. Strong to the fort, and were introduced to Gen. Macomb, who received us courteously, and we remained some time, in examining the fortifications, and looking, for the first time, upon the array of a hostile army, in full view, and within cannon shot. But as the evening approached, Gen. Macomb advised us to retreat and get a shelter elsewhere, as he thought they might be attacked before morning. We understood the British, during the darkness of the nights, were arranging their batteries nearer the fort.

We were not present, nor very near the battle of the 11th of September, but were not out of hearing of the great guns. On Friday night, after we left the fort, we crawled into the large tent of Gen. Thomas, on Crab Island, which was already well filled, and laid ourselves down on a wet board, with hemlock boughs for a pil-

low, and remained until the dawning light of the next morning. The night of Saturday we lodged in a log cabin, inhabited by a kind old man and woman, high up on one of the New York hills, which shuts down to the west bank of the lake, where our hunger was appeased, and our fatigue relieved, with the best the house afforded. In the afternoon of the next day,—the day of the battle,—we reached; in such way as we could,—the west side of the Island of North Hero, in full view of the shattered fleets, and the battle field on the land. Not being able to find a passage that night, we occupied the neighboring hay-mows for our lodging. The next morning we found boats to take us to the fleet, and were very courteously received by Commodore McDonough, with whom we were well acquainted. He had married a Miss Shaler of Middletown, Connecticut. While he was in the neighborhood of the lake, building and preparing his fleet at Vergennes for the conflict, and superintending its operations, his wife, a most interesting woman, spent her time in Middlebury, in the family of Mrs. Latimer, with whom she had been acquainted while Middletown was the residence of both. And of course the Commodore spent his leisure time here, and became intimate in the society of Middlebury. It is not too much to say that every body admired him as a gentleman, and singularly qualified for his responsible position. We also visited the vessel, in which Commodore Downey was killed, and in which we saw his corpse, and the fort, where we saw several acquaintances, belonging to the regular army.

Of the state of the troops, before and after the battle, and of the success, which attended the contest, in the battle, Gen. Strong made regular communications to Gov. Chittenden. On the 10th, the day before the battle, he wrote—"I have been up the river this morning five or six miles, which was lined with the enemy on the north side. They have made several attempts to cross, but without success. This is the line that is to be defended. I have ascertained, to a certainty, the number of militia from Vermont, now on the ground well armed, is 1812; from New York, 700; Regular troops under General Maccomb, he says, 2000. He treated me very friendly." "We have strong expectations of 2000 detached militia, ordered out by Gen.

Mooers, arriving soon." "I hope you and our friends will send four or five thousand to our assistance as soon as possible." September 11, Sunday, 7 o'clock, P. M., he wrote again,—“We are now encamped, with 2500 Vermont Volunteers, on the south side of the Saranac, opposite the enemy's right wing, which is commanded by General Brisbane. We have had the satisfaction to see the British fleet strike to our brave Commodore, McDonough. The fort was attacked at the same time, the enemy attempting to cross the river at every place fordable, for four miles up the river. But they were foiled at every attempt, except at Pike's encampment, where we now are. The New York militia were posted at the place, under Gens. Mooers and Wright. They were forced to give back a few miles; until they were reinforced by their artillery. The General informed me of his situation, and wished for our assistance, which was readily afforded. We met the enemy and drove him across the river, under cover of his artillery. Our loss is trifling. We took 20 or 30 prisoners. Their number of killed is not known. We have been skirmishing all day on the banks of the river. This is the only place he crossed, and he has paid dear for that. I presume the enemy's force exceeds the number I wrote you. What will be our fate to-morrow I know not; but I am willing to risk the consequence attending it, being convinced of the bravery and skill of my officers and men.”

Gen. Strong had no occasion for alarm for what was to take place “to-morrow.” As soon as the British fleet had acknowledged their defeat by the bravery of McDonough and his men, Gov. Provost ordered a retreat, and the whole British army were on their way to Canada the same night.

There was a recruiting station continued here during the whole war; and it is said that as many as two hundred and fifty, from this and the neighboring towns, were enlisted for the regular army.



